FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 038

26 February 1985

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

Bovin Questions U.S. Sincerity on Arms Curbs [IZVESTIYA 24 Feb] AA 1

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

Kulikov Interviewed on Warsaw Pact, Military [Prague RUDE PRAVO 21 Feb] BB 1
Bloc Party Newspaper Chiefs Meet in Berlin [PRAVDA 23 Feb] BB 4

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

West Continues To Lament European 'Division' CC 1
UN Head Reiterates Call for End to Gulf War [PRAVDA 23 Feb] CC 1
USSR Delegate's Remarks to UN Commission Noted [SELSKAYA ZHIZN 22 Feb] CC 2
UN Committee Supports Soviet Peace Proposal CC 2
Nonaligned States at Conference Welcome Arms Talks CC 3
Managua Declaration Condemns U.S. Policy CC 3

UNITED STATES & CANADA

2d Missile Test Over Canada in Feb Reported A 1
Swearing-In of Attorney General Meese Noted A 1
Moscow TV Interviews U.S. Amity Group Officials A 1
Moroccan Minister's Visit, U.S. Policy Viewed A 2

CHINA

Normalization of USSR-PRC Relations Sought [Sergeyev] B 1
PRC Daily Cites Chernenko Election Speech [PRAVDA 25 Feb] B 2
Qian Jiadong Lauds U.S.-USSR Talks Resumption B 2
PRC Official on 'Negative Features' of Economy B 3

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japans's Efforts in Space Militarization Scored C 1
[Mikhaylov in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 21 Feb]

SOUTH ASIA

PRC 'Overt Interference' in Afghanistan Hit D 1
[Vasilyev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Feb]
Moroccan Treatment of Afghan Rebels Criticized D 2
[Artamonov in IZVESTIYA 22 Feb]
TASS Reports Gas Contract Signed With DRA D 2
BAKHTAR Cited on Death of Afghan Rebel Leader D 3
India's Gandhi Interviewed on U.S. Arms in Pakistan D 3
TASS Cites REUTER on Pakistani Election D 4

EASTERN EUROPE

U.S. Military Attache Expelled From Poland F 1
CSSR Culture Days Celebrated in Moscow F 1
Havlin-Led Group Arrives F 1
Aliyev, Kapitonov at Festival F 1
Demichev, Havlin Speak F 1
Soviet, Hungarian Foreign Ministry Officials Meet F 4
[IZVESTIYA 22 Feb]

WESTERN EUROPE

Chernenko Addresses Foreword to Italian Readers G 1
[PRAVDA 24 Feb]
Soviet-Italian Trade Relations Viewed G 2
[IZVESTIYA 22 Feb]
PRAVDA Cites Italian CP Document on Peace G 3
[23 Feb]
Further on Papandreou's Dinner Speech in Moscow G 4
[Athens]
FRG Party Leader Makes 'Militaristic' Appeal G 4
[Aksyonov]
Militarization of FRG Science, SDI Support Viewed G 5
[Grigoriyev]
Marchais Urges Votes for French Communists G 6
U.S., W. Europe Differ on Technology Exports G 6
[IZVESTIYA 21 Feb]
Commentary Criticizes Upcoming NATO Maneuvers G 7
[Matyash]
Scandinavian Nuclear-Free Zone Issue Supported G 8
[PRAVDA 22 Feb]

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Mubarak Proposal for Mideast Peace Criticized H 1
Lebanon Calls for UN Security Council Meeting H 2
USSR, Iraq Sign Agreement on Oil Deposit H 3

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Malian Party Delegation Visits Moscow 9-16 Feb J 1
[PRAVDA 17 Feb]
SWAPO Chief Nujoma Makes Press Statement J 1
[PRAVDA 23 Feb]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

CPSU Delegation Visits Nicaragua 18-20 Feb K 1
[PRAVDA 22 Feb]
Nicaraguan Chemical Weapon Possession Denied K 1
Chilean 'Genocide,' U.S. Role Criticized K 2
Chilean Workers' Assembly Meeting To Be Held K 2

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

AFP: Source Says Chernenko Votes at Hospital R 1
AFP: USSR Spokesman Says Chernenko Votes at Home R 1
PRAVDA Editorial on Election Day Unity R 1
[25 Feb]
PRAVDA Editorial on Election Day Voting R 3
[24 Feb]
Tikhonov 21 Feb Election Speech Reported R 5
[PRAVDA 22 Feb]
Correction to Gromyko Election Address R 12

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Grain Expert Assesses State of Seed Stocks T 1
[Zhinov in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 21 Feb]
PRAVDA Reports Stockraising Problems in Turkmenia T 2
[22 Feb]
Livestock Care in Kashka-Darya Oblast Criticized T 3
Shortcomings in Agricultural Preparations Noted T 3
[Astakhov]

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Sokolov Issues Order for Army, Navy Day B 1
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Feb]
Military Officials Commemorate Army, Navy Day V 2
Akhromeyev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA [22 Feb] V 2
Yepishev in IZVESTIYA [22 Feb] V 6
Yefimov on TV V 8
Correction to Sokolov Commemorates Anniversary V 10

BOVIN QUESTIONS U.S. SINCERITY ON ARMS CURBS

PM251627 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Feb 85 Morning Edition pp 4-5

[Alexandr Bovin "Political Commentator's Opinion": "Test of Intentions"]

[Text] The arms race occupies a special place among those global problems which, if exacerbated, would make the future daunting for mankind, if not doubtful. This is because it threatens disastrous nuclear catastrophe and considerably slows down economic and social progress. There is no task more urgent, vital, or humane than halting the growth in military potentials and beginning to reduce the arsenals of death until they are completely eliminated.

The solution of this task entails the kind of difficulties which sometimes seem insoluble. Even the very limited experience of recent decades nevertheless shows that agreement is possible: provided, of course, the intention to reach agreement exists. But this is precisely where doubts set in. Too often our Western partners have been insincere, resorted to trickery, renounced previously agreed positions, and sought to alter the correlation of forces in their favor. You cannot help thinking of this on the eve of the Soviet-U.S. talks.

The dialogue in Geneva will be hard and demanding. It will take great efforts and a long time to achieve the set goal of preventing a further arms race and reducing the mountains of weapons. At the same time certain interim, limited measures could be conceived which would make the solution of the main task easier. The Soviet Union's repeated suggestion to freeze the production and deployment of nuclear munitions and delivery vehicles is just such a measure, as is the complete and general banning of nuclear weapons tests -- a question which has been to the fore in the disarmament struggle for 30 years now.

On 10 May 1955 the Soviet delegation submitted the following proposal to a subcommittee of the UN Disarmament Commission: "As a priority measure in implementing the program of arms reduction and banning atomic weapons, states possessing atomic and hydrogen weapons pledge to reduce the testing of these types of weapons." The corresponding talks involving the USSR, the United States, and Britain began at the Palais des Nations in Geneva in the fall of 1958. It was an unusual event. There were many long arguments. Finally the sides agreed to ban nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, in space, and under water. In August 1963 the treaty which has become known as the Moscow Treaty was opened for signing simultaneously in Moscow, Washington, and London.

This was the first step on the path toward limiting the arms race. But the 1963 treaty's significance is not confined to purely political aspects. The ending of test explosions in the three spheres also sharply reduced the danger of radioactive contaminated soil into the atmosphere. In 1964, however, the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences reported that the total radioactivity of precipitation had fallen 100 times in comparison with the test period.

The Moscow Treaty's terms of reference did not include underground test explosions. Therefore, wide-ranging opportunities remained for improving nuclear weapons and continuing the arms race.

The danger of environmental pollution also continued, therefore, because the radioactive materials formed during underground tests can reach the surface by various means. The Soviet Union insisted that underground tests by banned too. The United States and Britain would not agree and cited the verification problem. But, verification was merely a pretext. In a special letter to the U.S. Senate, where the Moscow Treaty had been sent for ratification, the Joint Chiefs of Staff insisted on the need to "conduct a broad, energetic, and continuous program of underground nuclear tests designed to increase our knowledge and improve our weaponry in all spheres of significance for our military situation in the future." The continuation of underground tests was an unusual kind of compensation for the Pentagon's agreement to give the treaty the "go ahead."

Time passed and the world entered the era of detente. On the wave of detente the USSR and the United States concluded a treaty on 3 July 1974 limiting the yield of underground test explosions to 150 kilotons (let us recall that 1 kiloton is equivalent to 1,000 tons of TNT), and on 28 May 1976 a treaty was signed which introduced a 150,000-kiloton threshold on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. These decisions were palliatives, halfway measures, but as temporary decisions they were still useful. But then a story began which has since been repeated many times. First Ford tricked us. Then Carter tricked us. Both treaties remained unratified.

Nevertheless, talks began between the USSR, the United States, and Britain in June 1977 on the complete banning of underground nuclear tests. Our country treated those talks with the utmost seriousness. We believed and still do believe that the complete cessation of nuclear weapons testing would slow down drastically the qualitative arms race and that this would make military-strategic parity more stable. The confidence thus created would promote further joint moves toward disarmament. The regime governing the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons would also be strengthened.

Our partners seemed to share that approach. Because many points had already been clarified, the talks made tangible progress. The text of the treaty was practically agreed upon in 1980. Certain provisions of a primarily technical nature remained to be clarified. Once again political upheavals in Washington wrecked the agreement that had been reached. In fact, Washington has always been full of opponents of an all-embracing test ban. On 14 August 1978 -- at the height of the talks -- Donald Kerr, the U.S. deputy energy secretary, (whose department is in charge of nuclear weapons tests) stated that the conclusion of a treaty on the complete cessation of nuclear tests could lead to a loss of "advantages" in the sphere of nuclear weapons production." Such sentiments began to dominate when the new administration came to power. The Americans torpedoed the talks after the 12th round.

Washington's silence lasted until 1982. On 27 July the White House stated that the verification procedures envisaged in the 1974 and 1976 treaties did not suit the Americans because they enable the "Russians" to go beyond the agreed threshold. Therefore, before ratifying those treaties Washington would try to improve the means of verifying their observance. Only after that would tripartite talks on a complete test ban resume. On 17 February 1983 the United States officially proposed to the USSR that talks begin on amendments to the 1974 treaty.

The Soviet Union rejected that proposal. First, references to treaty violations were absolutely groundless. Incidentally, leading U.S. geophysics and geology experts, including Lynn R. Sykes, director of the geological observatory at Columbia University, are highly skeptical of the administration's claims.

Second, the verification and control procedures envisaged by the 1974 treaty were carefully thought out and highly effective. They provide for the exchange of the main geographical and geophysical characteristics of the ranges where tests are being carried out, including information on the geology of each test site. All this, in conjunction with the present level of equipment for measuring seismic changes in the earth's crust, makes it possible to reliably monitor the observance of the 150-kiloton threshold. Third, we should not be moving backward, toward a revision of treaties already signed, but forward, to the conclusion of a new treaty completely banning all underground test; especially since the Soviet Union, meeting its partners halfway, agreed in the final case to combine national monitoring facilities with international inspection on a voluntary basis.

But arguments and logic are of the least interest to Washington. It has other concerns. Addressing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on 13 May 1982, Eugene Rostow, then director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, told senators: "Many government subsections" are of the opinion that the United States "will need to conduct tests for a long time" to come in view of the "need to create new and modernize existing weapons systems"...And THE WASHINGTON POST spoke eloquently on the age-old complaints about "verification." The "verification" question, the newspaper said, is "constantly raised by those who time after time oppose all bans on nuclear weapon tests. The creators of new weapons systems and certain military men brandish that bugaboo whenever it seems that someone in the administration is moving toward concluding a test ban treaty." The people THE WASHINGTON POST is writing about think in terms dating back to the prenuclear era: More weapons equal greater security. There is a different dependence now: Genuine security can only be guaranteed by a mutual renunciation of the buildup of military muscle.

Many Americans understand that. Last summer the U.S. Senate proposed that the President rapidly resume talks on a complete cessation of nuclear weapons tests. A few days ago, B. Boxer and N. Mavroules, members of the House of Representatives, submitted for the examination of the U.S. Congress a draft joint resolution of both houses demanding that the President "temporarily" suspend nuclear weapons tests and begin talks on a complete test ban.

Ultimately, one's attitude to the cessation of tests may be regarded as a kind of litmus test making it possible to verify (exclusively by means of national facilities!) the sincerity and seriousness of one's intentions and the real weight of one's statements on the readiness to begin arms reduction. At the moment, our U.S. partners do not pass this test -- the test of intentions.

The Soviet Union's position may be put very briefly: We are ready to ratify at any time the 1974 and 1976 treaties and resume the tripartite talks.

KULIKOV INTERVIEWED ON WARSAW PACT, MILITARY

AU221413 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 21 Feb 85 p 6

[Interview given by Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, first USSR deputy minister of defense and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, to NOVOSTI: "A Firm Shield of Socialism"; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] Moscow (CTK) -- NOVOSTI: This May will be a month of two important anniversaries. Almost simultaneously with celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, the people of the fraternal socialist countries and all progressive mankind will also recall the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Warsaw Pact. What connection is there, in your opinion, between thses two events, aside from the fact that their anniversaries happen to coincide?

Kulikov: We can say without exaggeration that 9 May 1945 and 14 May 1955 are important milestones of our era. In a way, they reflect the magnificent path passed by the peoples of the fraternal countries in building and defending socialism.

It is symbolic that after the 40th anniversary of victory [in World War II] we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Warsaw Pact. There is an organic linkage between these events. Under the CPSU's leadership, the Soviet people and their Armed Forces, which brought about the enemy's crushing defeat in the Great Patriotic War, defended the freedom and independence of their socialist homeland and protected the legacy of the October Revolution. The defeat of fascism marked the beginning of profound social, economic, and political changes in a number of European countries and the formation of the socialist system in those countries. In other words, socialism crossed the borders of one country, and the world socialist system began to take shape.

I stress that the victory of people's democratic and socialist revolutions in the countries of central and southeastern Europe was by no means a result of the "Soviets exporting their revolution," as people in the West are fond of claiming. The liberation of those countries from the fascist oppression by the Soviet Union merely created favorable, I repeat, favorable, conditions for bringing about their democratization, for establishing socialist relations as the relations best suited to the requirements of people's masses in those countries.

The world socialist system was taking shape, and growing in strength, in a difficult situation. Although imperialism had lost its former power in the war, it had far from given up its endeavor to destroy socialism by force. It started intensive preparations for a new war, aimed this time against the entire socialist community. The threat of war increased particularly in 1949 when the United States set up NATO, the military bloc of imperialist states. The fraternal European socialist countries were therefore forced the take unavoidable countermeasures to safeguard a reliable defense of their people's socialist gains. In May 1955 they joined forces in the Warsaw Pact defense organization. For 3 decades now, this organization has served as a reliable means of safeguarding the collective security and inviolability of the borders of its member-states and, I would say, as the decisive factor of the defense of peace and socialism.

NOVOSTI: Please describe, at least briefly, the main results of the 30 years of the Warsaw Pact organization's activity.

Kulikov: First of all, I would like to stress that the signing of the Warsaw Treaty was a timely and extraordinarily farsighted step of the fraternal countries. Our military-political defense alliance is a firm shield of socialism. It is an insurmountable obstacle to the aggressive aspiration of imperialism.

Mankind has witnessed more than once that, by joint energetic actions, the Warsaw Pact member-states thwarted the attempts of imperialism to drag nations into anew war. I am convinced, and we are entitled to state, that the main result of the 30 years of the Warsaw Pact's activity is the preservation of peace and the successful prevention of imperialists from unleashing a new world war. Owing to the endeavor of fraternal socialist countries, the tragic cycle of world war -- brief respite of peace -- another world war, has been broken.

The Warsaw Pact member-states are now doing everything within their power to prevent this cycle from ever recurring again. It was precisely this motive that guided their proposals of the past years: to conclude a treaty between the countries of the Warsaw Pact ahd NATO on mutually renouncing the use of military force; to agree on bilaterally refraining from increasing, and subsequently reducing, military expenditures; to remove chemical weapons from Europe; and so forth.

In our opinion, the establishment of a firm base of the collective defense of socialism must be regarded as one of the significant results of the past 30 years. Thanks to the multifaceted activities of the Marxist-Leninist parties and governments of the fraternal countries, each of them -- but also the socialist community as a whole -- achieved significant successes in the sociopolitical, economic, and ideological spheres. Today homogenous whole, with a dynamically developing economy that accounts for more than 50 percent of the increase of the world industrial production.

It is obvious that such successes in the economic growth of the fraternal socialist states are of a not negligible significance for their collective defense. It is exactly thanks to this that the armed forces of the allied countries, and also the allied Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states, have achieved the high standards that are inevitable for effectively warding off a possible imperialist aggression.

NOVOSTI: Recently one has been more and more frequently writing and talking in the West about the "negative" impact of the results of the Yalta and Potsdam conferences on the fate of the postwar peace in Europe. Allegedly it was these conferences that became the reason for the "division" of Europe. What can be said about such claims?

Kulikov: First of all, this is a malicious distoration of the historic reality. The truth is that neither Yalta nor Potsdam had envisaged any division of Europe at all. There would have been no so-called division of the continent, had all the states represented at the Yalta and Potsdam conferences, and I mean by this the United States and Great Britain, consistently striven to realize the results achieved by the conferences and had they fought the revival of German militarism and the emergence of the danger of war coming from German soil. Regrettably, our former allies in the anti-Hitler coalition have "forgotten" much too soon the commitments they undertook. Moreover, in spite of all these commitments, they created the aggressive NATO pact, directed against the socialist states, and incorporated the FRG into it. This has meant a division of Europe. What aims are pursued by the "critics" of the Yalta and Potsdam agreements? In the first place, they want to denigrate these agreements, to discredit them, and to free imperialism of the blame for enhancing international tension and for its political confrontation with socialism.

Another aim is to prove the "illegitimacy" of the postwar arrangement of political and territorial issues in Europe and to achieve a revision of the results of war and of the postwar development in Europe. On the global scale, their main aim, which is being openly discussed in the West, is the "liberation of Eastern Europe," meaning the destruction of the socialist system in the countries of that area.

However, the reactionary imperialist forces, and above all the West German revanchists and militarists, will not succeed in destroying the foundations of the postwar arrangement in Europe. The results of the Yalta and Potsdam conferences are an international foundation based on a legal treaty, on which European and world peace are resting. They are reliably holding back all kinds of revanchists, and they are preventing the anti-socialist forces from attempting to destroy the community of fraternal socialist countries.

I would like to mention yet another thing: Yalta and Potsdam are an example of an effective political cooperation of states with different social systems. Certain circles in the West would like to forget this, in the interests of their egoistic goals, but the lesson taught by history affirms that world peace can only be the result of friendly and united efforts of all states and nations, regardless of their social systems. This must never be forgotten, particularly now, when mankind has dangerously approached a fateful crossroads.

NOVOSTI: Konstantin Chernenko has stressed time and again that mankind's history has entrusted socialism with a difficult and responsible mission: to succeed in defending peace and to preserve life on earth. What is your opinion on the role to be played by the Warsaw Pact, particularly in the current complicated international situation?

Kulikov: Thirty years ago, the fraternal socialist countries joined efforts and their political, economic, and defense power so as not to allow the war adventurers to destroy peace and to drag the nations into a nuclear catastrophe.

For 3 decades the Warsaw Pact has been serving this noble aim. It is an effective tool in the joint elaboration and realization of the peace policy of European socialist states. Herein lies its historic mission, which it will continue to fulfill as successfully as before.

The present international situation is, understandably, rather complex. The imperialist circles of the United States and NATO want to bury detente once and for all and erase its benefits from the memory of nations. They are escalating the feverish arms buildup in an unprecedented way, particularly the nuclear arms buildup. The United States and some of its allies do not conceal that they strive to achieve military superiority. Under these conditions, the Warsaw Pact states must make a considerable effort so as not to permit mankind to be dragged into the chasm of a new, nuclear war. They are pressing for a serious, equal dialogue between states with different social systems, for talks in the course of which both sides would realize their responsibility and strive for positive results. At the same time I want to stress that the Warsaw Pact countries do not strive for military superiority, but they will not permit anyone to achieve military superiority over them. The current approximate military-strategic equilibrium between the USSR and the United States, between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, are of great importance as a factor of stability.

At the same time I would like to point out that the Warsaw Pact countries are adopting necessary measures to strengthen their defense capability, but at the same time are waging a broad-based offensive and submitting on the international forum important initiatives aimed at maintaining and strengthening peace. All these initiatives are meeting with the wide support and consent of all peace-loving states and nations.

The new USSR-U.S. talks on a whole complex of questions pertaining to nuclear and space weapons are a genuine possibility for improving the international atmosphere. The initiator of these negotiations was the Soviet Union.

Already now it is obvious that these talks will not be easy. While the Soviet Union is pressing for matter-of-fact negotiations, for a serious approach to them, and for the unswerving observance of objectives that were determined at the Andrey Gromyko-George Shultz meeting in Geneva, the U.S. side talks about insurmountable difficulties and is preparing the world public for years of fruitless discussions. Moreover, the United States is even undertaking steps that prevent constructive talks. What I have in mind is, above all, the ongoing extensive program of outer space militarization in the United States, particularly the establishment of the antimissile defense system with space-based elements. The United States has not abandoned a single armament program aimed at achieving military superiority.

Thus during the talks the Soviet Union is prepared to honorably go its share of the way. Time will tell whether the United States is also ready to do the same.

NOVOSTI: How do you assess, as commander in chief, the combat and technical readiness of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces for the defense of the socialist accomplishments of the fraternal nations?

Kulikov: As long as imperialism exists, there also persists the danger of a new war, although -- I stress -- it is not fatefully unavoidable. This danger forces the fraternal countries to see to their defense capability, raise the combat potential and combat readiness of the Joint Armed Forces and armies of the individual states.

At the same time I want to stress that the Warsaw Pact did not, has not, and will not have any other strategic doctrine than a defensive one. It does not threaten anyone; it is not readying itself for attack. That, however, does not at all mean that in the event of imperialist aggression the fraternal countries will only defend themselves passively.

All this also determines the content of the endeavor of the fraternal Marxist-Leninist parties and governments and all Warsaw Pact countries for further perfecting the armed defense of the socialist accomplishments of their nations.

Today, the Joint Armed Forces are a harmonious military organism. Their organizational structure, techniques, equipment, combat capability, and combat readiness correspond to the highest requirements of the present. Their members are well trained and unconditionally dedicated to the ideals of communism. Therefore, we can rightly say that the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces are prepared to fulfill tasks in the defense of peace and socialism.

BLOC PARTY NEWSPAPER CHIEFS MEET IN BERLIN

PM251132 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Newspapers' Cooperation"]

[Text] Berlin, 22 Feb -- A conference of chief editors of the central press organs of the socialist countries' fraternal parties was held here. It was devoted to questions of the preparations for the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and the peoples' liberation from the Nazi yoke. The conference participants also discussed questions of further cooperation among the fraternal newspapers and topical tasks of the joint struggle to strengthen socialism and safeguard peace. V.G. Afanasyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief editor of PRAVDA, took part in the conference.

The conference participants were received by E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

WEST CONTINUES TO LAMENT EUROPEAN 'DIVISION'

LD242332 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Feb 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Vsevolod Ovchinnikov]

[Text] February has been marked by a fresh cascade of efforts to make use of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism for anti-Soviet ends. The speech by Prime Minister Thatcher in the U.S. Congress may serve as an instance of this. She lamented the division of the European Continent which has been maintained, along the line of which -- she said -- the border of freedom passes. The LONDON TIMES reiterates the same thing in an editorial article on the Yalta conference. The newspaper describes Yalta as a symbol of betrayal: The Western leaders, it says, betrayed central and Eastern Europe, failing to do everything possible to prevent the birth of communist regimes there, although they had at their disposal the military and other resources required at a time when the USSR was exhausted by war. The policy of the West, the TIMES proclaims, should consequently be aiemd at overcoming Yalta, that is, at overcoming the division of Europe into two differing sociopolitical systems. It cannot be managed by military force, the newspaper sighs; the deliberations of Bonn politicians about a Germany within the 1937 borders are senseless. The TIMES proposes another way: that of encouraging pro-Western tendencies in the foreign and domestic policies of the countries of central and Eastern Europe, for, it says, only a greater degree of pluralism can ensure them internal stability and external peace. To put it more simply, it is proposed, without altering the postwar state borders, to shift the borders of the socialist system eastward.

The British Conservatives are clearly echoing Reagan's tune: According to Reagan, Yalta symbolizes the watershed between freedom and oppression which, he said, must be drained. Well, concerning the watershed, Reagan and Thatcher are perhaps right, however, let us note that those who shout the loudest about that notorious pluralism are precisely those who do not have enough of it, those who do not want to recognize the right of others to live in their own way and those who do not see that the birth of the socialist community is a step in history. Incidentally, the results of World War II led to irreversible changes not just in Europe: Did not the Yalta conference anticipate the collapse of the colonial system in Asia and Africa? To revile Yalta as the TIMES does is the same as advocating the renaissance of the British empire within the 1945 borders. In a word, to daydream about the restoration of capitalism in the countries of Eastern Europe is no less absurd than hoping to put India back in the colonial yoke.

UN HEAD REITERATES CALL FOR END TO GULF WAR

PM251026 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "P. de Cuellar's Appeal"]

[Text] New York, 22 Feb -- UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar has called for a speedy end to the "destructive conflict" between Iran and Iraq, which is leading to grave human and material losses for both countries. In a report to the Security Council on the results of a UN special mission during which, in January of this year, an inspection was carried out in prisoner of war camps in Iran and Iraq, he reaffirmed his readiness to promote any initiative that could bring peace to those states' peoples.

USSR DELEGATE'S REMARKS TO UN COMMISSION NOTED

PM251129 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 Feb 85 p 3

[Unnamed TASS correspondent report: "Barrier Against Drug Traffic"]

[Text] Vienna -- The 31st regular session of the UN Commission on Narcotics has ended its work here. Taking part in its work were representatives of the Commission's 40 member-states, including the USSR, and also observers from a number of countries and international organizations.

The session examined a range of problems linked with the struggle against criminal drug dealings and the elimination and prevention of drug addiction.

The session participants listened with great interest to the speeches by E.A. Babayan, USSR representatives on the commission, who cited specific and convincing examples to demonstrate the Soviet Union's achievements in preventing the abuse of drugs and psychotropic agents. A growing role in the Soviet state's successes in the work to prevent drug addiction is played by its social system, safeguarding the interests of all strata of the population, the speaker noted.

Following WHO recommendations, the session made a number of psychotropic drugs subject to international control.

UN COMMITTEE SUPPORTS SOVIET PEACE PROPOSAL

LD231244 Moscow TASS in English 1229 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] New York February 23 TASS -- The U.N. Special Committee on Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Principle of the Non-Use of Force in the International Relations has ended a session here, which has reflected the interest of most states in adopting effective measures to further consolidate this principle and lend it the force of law. In an adopted report, the committee drew attention to the need to develop and further concretize this principle with a view to warding off the increasing threat of a nuclear war, preventing the militarization of outer space and radically improving the international situation. In this context the Soviet initiative for concluding a world treaty on the non-use of force in the international relations, whose implementation would make it possible to fortify the mainstays of peace and general security, won broad support.

The report pointed out the Soviet Union's vigorous efforts to achieve these goals. It said that in addition to a number of proposals aiming to reduce the material basis which underlied the threat of war, the USSR had made a historic step by pledging unilaterally not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. In this connection the report recalled the appeal of the 39th Session of the U.N. General Assembly to all other nuclear states, which have not yet done the same, to follow the example of the Soviet Union.

The United States and its closest NATO partners, notably Britain, at the session took once again an obstructionist stand preventing the international community's efforts to erect reliable international legal barriers in the way of any use of force, be it with the use of nuclear weapons or with the use of conventional weapons, and elaborate a norm-setting document on the non-use of force. The American representative said bluntly that Washington rejected the idea of such a treaty.

This position clearly shows the striving of the United States, which claims a "right" to "remove" sovereign governments that do not suit it, to have its hands free to conduct a policy of raw force and state terrorism in the international relations.

This approach was rebuffed by most of the session participants. Summing up the results of the session, the special committee's chairman Srinivasa Rao of India stressed the urgent need for the committee to step up its efforts to be able to fulfill the task, entrusted to it by the U.N. General Assembly, of working out a treaty on the non-use of force in the international relations soon.

NONALIGNED STATES AT CONFERENCE WELCOME ARMS TALKS

LD221343 Moscow TASS in English 1302 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Text] Geneva February 22 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev reports:

The group of non-aligned and neutral countries, participating in work of the Geneva conference on disarmament, has made a statement welcoming the agreement between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to begin negotiations on a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms. In the statement it is noted that elaboration of effective agreements, aimed at preventing the arms race in outer space and terminating it on earth is in line with demands of the world community. The authors of the statement express the hope that this event will have a positive effect on the work of the disarmament conference and promote real progress in the sphere of disarmament. The statement has been distributed as a document of the conference.

MANAGUA DECLARATION CONDEMNS U.S. POLICY

LD221336 Moscow TASS in English 1256 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Text] Managua February 22 TASS -- A "Managua Declaration" -- the final document which was endorsed by the delegates to the first anti-imperialist congress of Latin America, which has been held in the Nicaraguan capital, has it that U.S. imperialism is the chief culprit of the sharpening of international tension and of the intensification of the arms race.

U.S. imperialism, the document points out, bears full responsibility for the outbreak of military conflicts in various parts of the world. It tries by force of arms to suppress the peoples' aspiration for independence and self-determination. Taking part in the anti-imperialist forum were scientists, journalists, and prominent political and public figures from twenty countries of the Western Hemisphere. They condemned Washington's attempts at blocking the Sandinista revolutionary process. The Cuban and Nicaraguan revolutions, the "Managua Declaration" points out, serve as vivid examples of the fact that it is impossible to defeat a people if they have decided to become the masters of their own destiny. Relying on internationalist solidarity and support, the armed people of Nicaragua will uphold its revolutionary gains. The document conveys a call to all progressive forces of the world to stop the escalation of U.S. agression against the Sandinista revolution.

The participants in the forum condemned the occupation of Grenada by U.S. invaders and demanded that the Reagan administration immediately withdraw U.S. troops from that Caribbean country. A resolution to this effect reaffirms the right of the peoples of Chile, Haiti, and Paraguay to a struggle for the restoration of democracy and for the overthrow of pro-American reactionary dictatorships.

2D MISSILE TEST OVER CANADA IN FEB REPORTED

LD252228 Moscow TASS in English 2209 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Ottawa February 25 TASS -- The Pentagon today flight-tested a cruise missile over Canada. This is the second such test this month. Launched from a U.S. B-52 bomber over the Sea of Beaufort, the missile flew over northern and north western regions of Canada to the missile testing range of Cold Lake Air Force Base in Alberta Province.

The homing system of a U.S. cruise missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead is tested in Canada for the fourth time. The USA also tested combat jet planes there.

Wide sections of the Canadian public wrathfully protest at the prospect of the country being turned into a test range of the Pentagon and at Canada's participation in the peace-endangering preparations of the U.S. Government. Anti-war demonstrations were held in several cities with demonstrators demanding that the Canadian Government dissociate itself from the rash U.S. policy and follow an independent course which would meet the interests of peace and disarmament.

SWEARING-IN OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MEESE NOTED

LD252137 Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 25 TASS -- Almost one year after his appointment was announced, Edwin Meese, one of the closest advisers and friends of President Reagan, was sworn in as U.S. attorney general today.

For some time the Senate of the U.S. Congress refused to approve the appointment of Meese who had been included in a whole series of major scandals, including those linked with abuse of office and bribery. Only after a massive and prolonged conditioning of the senators did the White House manage to secure the approval of Meese's appointment as chief law officer of the country.

MOSCOW TV INTERVIEWS U.S. AMITY GROUP OFFICIALS

LD222054 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 22 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; interview with U.S.-USSR friendship council officials]

[Text] Our country has been visited by a delegation of the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship. The guests visited Minsk, Leningrad, and Moscow. Our correspondent met John Cherveny, chairman of the National Council, and Alan Thomson, the executive director of the organization.

[Begin recording -- interview conducted in English with announcer-read superimposed Russian translation]

[Unidentified correspondent] What can you say about contacts between our countries' friendship societies?

[Cherveny] We came to your country for just one purpose, but an extremely important one -- namely, to further consolidate the friendly links between our societies and to expand the sphere of contacts between the U.S. and Soviet publics. We paid particular attention to discussing measures devoted to the 40th anniversary of the World War II victory.

The Soviet Union's contribution to victory over our common enemy was a decisive one. Unfortunately, however, few Americans are aware of this. We are holding special events devoted to this date in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, and in many other of the country's cities and states. Forty years ago our peoples fought together for peace, and it seems to me that at present we should do everything possible together to avert the slide toward a nuclear catastrophe that the policy of the Reagan administration could being about. I believe that the time again will come when our countries will together defend the general peace. [Cherveny in English did not mention the cause "that the policy of the Reagan administration could bring about"]

[Correspondent] The tension in relations between our countries instills people with alarm for the world's future. What, in your view, should be done to eliminate this situation?

[Thompson[We should above all create an atmosphere in relations between our countries that would make it possible to get down to genuine disarmament. In this connection we consider our main task to be to inform the American public as broadly as possible about life in your country. We must report truthful information about the intentions and apsirations of Soviet people to every American. We can see how sincerely your country desires peace, and are aware that the vast majority of Americans, too, wish to live in peace with you. [end recording]

MOROCCAN MINISTER'S VISIT, U.S. POLICY VIEWED

LD232313 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 23 TASS -- Contradictions between the Middle East policy of the U.S. Administration and the policy of most Arab countries have become manifest again during President Reagan's talks with Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali of Morocco, who is staying here on a working visit.

Filali handed over to Reagan a personal letter from King Hassan II of Morocco. The contents of the document were not published. But judging by Filali's remarks in a conversation with journalists, the king reiterated his position that the decisions of the 1982 conference of the heads of state and government of Arab countries in Fes, Morocco, could serve as the basis for talks to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

For its part, the American side at the meeting in the White House demonstrated once again its intention to continue imposing on Arab states separate deals with Tel Aviv in conditions where Israel continues to occupy Arab lands.

NORMALIZATION OF USSR-PRC RELATIONS SOUGHT

OW250458 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 24 Feb 85

[Sergeyev commentary: "The CPSU Unswervingly Pursues the Policy of Normalizing Soviet-Chinese Relations"]

[Text] Four years have elapsed since the 26th CPSU Congress, which attached great importance to Soviet-Chinese relations. In its concluding report to the congress, the CPSU Central Committee said: The Soviet Union did not have any intention of confronting the PRC in the past, nor does it have any intention of doing so now. The policy we pursue was laid down by the 24th and 25th CPSU Congresses, and we hope to establish relations with that country on the basis of good-neighborliness. Our proposals to normalize relations with China still hold true, and our respect and friendship for the Chinese people remain unchanged. In this connection, Soviet sinologist Sergeyev writes:

Documents of the 24th, 25th, and 26th CPSU Congresses, which were held in 1971, 1976, and 1981, respectively, show that the central idea of the policy pursued by the CPSU and the Soviet state toward China is to work for the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presideium, stressed: We firmly implement the principled line laid down by the 26th CPSU Congress and unswervingly strive to improve our relations with the PRC, and have adopted corresponding measures in that regard.

Recently, our two countries have gradually developed trade and economic, scientific and technological, cultural, sports, as well as other relations of mutual benefit. Trade between the two countries has expanded, and we have exchanged students, art ensembles, and sports delegations. The friendship associations of the two countries have resumed their contacts. At the inviation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, a delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, headed by the association's president, Wang Bingnan, and two special tourist groups -- one from the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association -- visited the Soviet Union in 1984.

At the invitation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, a Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society delegation headed by Academician Tikhvinskiy, first deputy chairman of the society's central board, visited China and attended the 35th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association. In addition, two special tourist groups, one from the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and the other from the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, also visited China.

Toward the end of last year, the two countries signed three important agreements of [words indistinct]. This proves that both sides have striven to expand Soviet-Chinese trade, economic, and scientific and technological relations. As a result, such relations have been reinvigorated even more. The three agreements are on economic and technical cooperation, scientific and technological cooperation, and on establishing a joint committee for economic, trade, scientific, and technological cooperation. Under the agreements, the two countries will engage in joint research, exchange production means and technical information in production, and cooperate with one another in designing, building, and rebuilding existing industrial enterprises, as well as in other projects. The two countries will also provide technical services for each other and exchange experts, scientists, and scientific and technological achievements. The two countries have agreed that there will be a marked increase in trade between them.

The Soviet people are very much satisfied with such results, which are conducive to the further development of comprehensive Soviet-Chinese cooperation and the promotion of social and economic development in the two countries.

The Soviet Union is willing to cooperate with China in other fields, such as coordinating on issues of world peace and security. We must do so now because U.S. imperialism has launched its anticommunist crusade and has been carrying out activities which pose a threat to the security, freedom, and independence of the people of various countries.

Soviet leader Chernenko pointed out: Progress has been made in Soviet-Chinese relations. The participation of the Chinese people in the struggle by the people of various countries to prevent war is undoubtedly conducive to enhancing the role of socialism in international affairs and strengthening the position of the peace forces.

In his 22 February written speech to his Moscow constituency, Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, also pointed out: We hold that it is of great significance to normalize relations with the PRC. Useful steps were taken in that respect last year. Comrade Chernenko said: We cannot but see that there are still serious political differences between the two countries. We hope that Soviet-Chinese relations will be developed even more favorably through the efforts of both sides.

Following the principles laid down by the 26th CPSU Congress, the Soviet Union is striving for the true normalization of relations with the PRC.

PRC DAILY CITES CHERNENKO ELECTION SPEECH

PM251156 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 25 February 1985 in its First Edition publishes on page 4 a 1,500-word TASS roundup, dated 24 February, of foreign media reaction to K.U. Chernenko's election speech under the headline "Living in Peace." The roundup includes the following passage:

"Giving an account of K.U. Chernenko's speech, China's RENMIN RIBAO specially emphasizes that the Soviet leader 'expressed hope for a further improvement in Soviet-Chinese relations.' 'Useful steps were taken on this plane last year,' the newspaper quotes. 'Although we cannot fail to see the serious political disagreements which still exist, we would like to hope that through the efforts of both sides, Soviet-Chinese relations will enjoy further good development.'"

QIAN JIADONG LAUDS U.S.-USSR TALKS RESUMPTION

OW240506 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] China believes the agreement reached by the Soviet Union and the United States to hold a new round of talks in Geneva on space and nuclear weapons issues is a positive event. That remark was made by Qian Jiadong, head of the Chinese delegation to the Geneva disarmament meeting. The Chinese delegation this week told the participants in the meeting that China supports the proposal, which is conducive to reducing the menace of a nuclear war and to not using nuclear arms and force. The proposal was first put forward by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries of friendship and cooperation.

Qian Jiadong is essentially opposed to the U.S. plan for space militarization as well as the so-called scientific research projects to use outer space to achieve military goals. He suggested banning the study, development, production, and deployment of various types of space weapons, including antisatellite and antimissile systems, and destroying existing similar weapons and systems. The diplomats attending the Geneva disarmament meeting regarded Qian Jiadong's statement that China would reaffirm its former stand as extremely important.

PRC OFFICIAL ON 'NEGATIVE FEATURES' OF ECONOMY

LD240018 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0711 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Beijing, 23 Feb (TASS) -- An all-China conference convened by the PRC State Council in Tianjin was devoted to determining the main directions and tasks in economic work during the current year. The reports by Lu Dong, chairman of the PRC State Economic Commission, and Yuan Baohua, his deputy, while giving an overall positive appraisal of the main trends of economic activity in 1984, pointed out a number of negative features hampering the development of Chinese industry under the conditions of the economic reform now being implemented. Among these there were a "chaotic rise in prices," a "disorderly hand-out of bonuses," insufficient attention paid to the training of qualified cadres ready to implement reforms, and the use of a "market approach" in the management of the economy. The conference noted the existence of "ideological problems that have arisen in the course of the reform", and called for a "real implementation of the political directives that have been adopted."

Chinese press articles that have appeared since the conference draw attention to certain negative consequences and difficulties that have arisen in the course of transforming the economy. JINGJI RIBAO, for example, reported that only 15 percent of China's large and medium enterprises are "sufficiently viable." The HONGQI magazine, demanding supervision of the "irrational growth of the consumption fund," said that the country's population is alarmed over the rise in prices, but at the same time an arbitrary increase is taking place in various subsidies and payments that are not being provided for by increased efficiency in production and labor productivity. In the magazine's opinion, this situation is leading to inflation and an exacerbation of imbalances in the economy and could "cause chaos in economic life."

JAPAN'S EFFORTS IN SPACE MILITARIZATION SCORED

PM251028 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 21 Feb 85 p 3

[I. Mikhaylov article: "Dangerous Alliance"]

[Text] They have begun constructing an enormous bomb shelter beneath the Japanese parliament. The legislators' reinforced-concrete refuge will be many levels deep and will be equipped with everything necessary to sustain a long stay there. The press report about the construction of the bomb shelter coincided with another event: The mayors of four major ports -- Yokosuka, Sasebo, Mairuru, and Kure -- handed a petition to the government demanding strict observance of the following three principles enshrined in the Japanese Constitution: namely, not to manufacture, possess, or import nuclear weapons.

The majors' fears are easy to understand. There is increasing information to suggest that the Pentagon has nuclear weapons at its bases in Japan. Nuclear submarines and ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet carrying these lethal weapons frequently put in at Japanese ports. The official authorities are already openly speaking about the possibility of siting nuclear weapons in the country. The defense white paper recently endorsed by the Nakasone cabinet speaks frankly about supporting a "U.S. military presence on Japanese soil, including a nuclear deterrent force."

The joint plans to militarize space give a particularly ominous tinge to the cooperation between the U.S. and Japanese military. Washington has in recent years been keeping a close watch on its Far Eastern partner's successes in the science and technology spheres. It was decided to make use of the achievements of Japanese scientists and engineers -- particularly in creating lasers and developing microprocessors -- and their inventions in avaiation and space technology when the latest weapons systems are produced in the United States. It was also decided to involve Japanese specialists in work on building the crew module for a American press orbiting system. The latter is intended to pay a key role in America's "star wars" program.

In January the Japanese Government approved plans to use space technology for the military department's needs. Eight leading Japanese industrial corporations are engaged in active research in this sphere. Mitsubishi heavy industry, for example, is building rocket engines, Hitachi and Ishikawajima-Harima heavy industry have signed a contract to produce rocket components, and Nissan is concerned with rocket assembly.... It is also noteworthy that each of the Japanese companies has an American partner. Toshiba, for example, cooperates with General Electric and Mitsubishi Electric with Ford Areospace. All eight corporations, as the Hong Kong magazine ASIAWEEK notes, are involved in building the crew module for the American orbiting station. And Japanese specialists recently also began building the H-2 two-stage missile, which the American military is also planning to use in its space militarization program.

The activity of Nakasone's Conservative government openly flouts the resolution adopted by the Japanese parliament in 1969 which provides for the exclusively peaceful use of space. But it is clear that the country's ruling circles are stubbornly seeking to ignore the peace provisions of the Constitution, the three non-nuclear principles, and the parliamentary resolution. Moreover, despite opposition protests, the Japanese Cabinet has made the decision to appropriate 168 million yen in fiscal 1985 (beginning 1 April -- I.M.) to fit Japanese warships with equipment capable of receiving signals from the American Fleetsat military satellite.

The Japan National Defense Agency recently obtained a Sakura-2 communications satellite for its use. As reported by the KYODO news agency, the Japanese armed forces command plans to make use of satellite communications in the multinational RIMPAC maneuvers. This is not the 1st year the Japanese navy will be taking part in them, together with other Washington allies in the Pacific.

The present scale of U.S.-Japanese military cooperation aimed at militarizing space automatically brings the past to mind. On 15 August 1945 an address by Emperor Hirohito was broadcast by radio to the Japanese armed forces. An announcer read out the following statement: "We have lost. But this is only temporary. Japan's mistake lay in not having enough material resources, scientific knowledge, or armaments. We will rectify this mistake." These words sound particularly disturbing in our space and nuclear age.

There have been many tragic periods in Japan's history when the military embroiled the country in armed conflicts. The most terrible for the Japanese people was the last war, when millions of people died and Japan became the first country to experience the horrors of the atomic bomb. The arms race, including the space arms race, in which the United States is involving Japan more and more actively, poses a grave threat to the whole of mankind.

PRC 'OVERT INTERFERENCE' IN AFGHANISTAN HIT

PM251321 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Feb 85 Second Edition p 5

[Colonel V. Vasilyev article: "Unseemly Activity"]

[Text] The BAKHTAR news agency recently distributed the texts of a protest presented by the DRA Foreign Ministry to the PRC charge d'affaires in Kabul and a letter sent by the PDPA Central Committee to the CPC Central Committee. The two documents quote specific facts to illustrate China's increased overt interference in the internal affairs of sovereign and independent Afghanistan, and also its active participation in the undeclared war waged by the forces of imperialism and reaction against the DRA.

These facts are as follows. China's special services are engaged in subversive activity against the DRA's legitimate government and its people by rendering considerable military and financial assistance to the Afghan counterrevolution. They have also been involved in setting up a number of left-wing extremist counterrevolutionary organizations on Afghan territory, like "victory," "Guards' Corps," "Immortal Flame," and others.

The Afghan bandits receive from China not only small arms and ammunition but also heavy weapons -- mortars, recoilless rifles, and "surface to surface" rocket-propelled charges. These weapons are transported to Pakistan by sea, by air, and by road -- along the Karakorum Highway. According to Western press reports, in July and August 1984 alone Chinese deliveries to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries in Pakistan consisted of 90,000 automatic rifles, 20,000 cases of ammunition, 2,000 light machine guns, 1,000 rounds of RPG ammunition, and 400,000 rounds of small arms ammunition.

About 800 Chinese military instructors are training Afghan counterrevolutionaries in special camps on Pakistani territory close to Islamabad, Peshawar, Lowaramena, (Mamadgart), Shabqadar, Fakirabad, Attock, Kohat, Spinwam, and Parachinar. According to testimony by captured dushmans, centers for the training of subversive groups to be sent to Afghanistan exist even in China itself, close to the population centers of Kaxgar and Hotan in the Xinjiang-Ugyur Autonomous Region.

The Afghan bandits also receive financial aid. According to Western press reports, a year ago Pakistan's ambassador in Beijing was presented with the sum of 16 million yuan as aid to "Afghan refugees" through the Chinese Muslim Association. In actual fact, this money was meant to "beef up" various dushman gangs. People in Beijing say openly that China will render moral and material assistance to the Afghan reaction "to the end."

Verbally, Chinese spokesmen appear to advocate a "political settlement of the Afghan question" conditional upon respect for Afghanistan as an independent, sovereign, territorially integral, and nonaligned Islamic state. It is typical that such a statement was made by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian before Afghan counterrevolutionaries during his August 1983 visit to their camp in Pakistan.

In practice, however, Beijing, is doing everything to prevent such a settlement and create feelings against the DRA among the international public and is encouraging other countries to pursue an anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet course. This policy by China renders it, in reality, an ally of the forces of imperialism and reaction, and primarily of the United States and Pakistan which are striving to liquidate the Afghan people's revolutionary gains. It is not surprising that Beijing thoroughly coordinates its anti-Afghan activity with Washington and Islamabad.

MOROCCAN TREATMENT OF AFGHAN REBELS CRITICIZED

PM251128 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Artamonov "Pertinent Remarks": "In the Role of Patron"]

[Text] The worse things get for the Afghan counterrevolution, the more frequent become the foreign trips by its emissaries to secure additional financial and other aid. A certain Mohammed al-Azrak arrived on an "information visit" in Morocco in the second half of January. The Afghan counterrevolution's representative was received by M. Boucetta, secretary general of the Istiqlal Party, and, according to reports in AL-'ALAM, that party's press organ, they exchanged opinions on the situation in Afghanistan.

During the extended visit, the petitioner from the dushman rabble also met some Moroccan officials a few days ago, expecting favors from them. To judge by everything, the conversation was objective enough and clearly focused on the question of support for the dushman soldiery. At a recent press conference in Rabat the dushman emissary boastfully declared that the Moroccan Red Crescent Society "will give help to the Afghan mujahidin."

Clearly enjoying the Moroccan authorities' patronage, the visitor engaged in energetic activity in that foreign country to knock together an alliance of fellow-thinkers. His anti-Afghan campaign received the solidarity of the Moroccan association "Shabab al-Nahdah al-Islamiyah", which instigated gatherings in Rabat's suburb of Sale and a number of propaganda events whose purpose was to basely denigrate the Afghan people's revolutionary gains and justify the undeclared war against Democratic Afghanistan. According to the newspaper AL-'ALAM, the noisy gathering was attended by Morocco's Minister of Planning Abdelhaq Tazi and a member of the leadership of the Istiqlal Party. This entire political affair, mixed with religious fanaticism and speculation on Muslims' sentiments, was given publicity by some local press organs.

Is there anyone who does not know the true nature of "fighters" for the faith of the Mohammed al-Azrak ilk? They are guilty of committing mass atrocities against their fellow-believers, assassinating clerics, blowing up Muslim mosques, and torturing hundreds of people. Beneath the banner of Islam, the counterrevolution is terrorizing Afghanistan's civilian population and training cutthroats, saboteurs, and spies, using money from imperialist powers. One gets the impression that certain circles in Rabat seem to have fallen under the spell of the bellicose visitor, ignoring reality and the true state of affairs. Helping him whip up an anti-Afghan campaign, these circles have thus involved the country in direct interference in the affairs of a sovereign state, which can only suit international imperialism and primarily U.S. imperialism, and in no way accords with the Moroccan people's interests.

TASS REPORTS GAS CONTRACT SIGNED WITH DRA

LD261114 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1547 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Kabul, 25 Feb (TASS) -- TASS correspondent German Baykov reports: A contract has been signed here on the supply of Afghan natural gas to the Soviet Union for 1985. As a result of this mutually beneficial trade agreement the DRA will be able to make new purchases of wheat, sugar, fats, four, and other essential goods. M. Barak, Afghan deputy minister for mines and industry, told the TASS correspondent that the Soviet Union has long been giving considerable, selfless aid to the Afghan people. Gas deposit exploration in northern Afghanistan is one example of such aid. A large number of highly-qualified Afghan specialists have been trained at facilities built with the help of the Soviet Union. We are certain, stated the deputy minister, that the implementation of the contract signed will serve the interests of our countries and peoples.

BAKHTAR CITED ON DEATH OF AFGHAN REBEL LEADER

LD230026 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0800 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Text] Kabul, 22 Feb (TASS) — BAKHTAR reports that the security organs of Afghanistan wiped out an armed band of the counterrevolutionary organization Jam'iat-e Eslami a few days ago in Balkh Province. Mohammad Sidiq, the leader of the band, was killed during the battle, and some of the bandits were captured. Earlier antoher leader of Jam'iat-e Eslami, known by the code-name Zabih, was killed in Balkh Province. Together with arms and property stolen by the bandits from the Afghan population, the DRA security organs seized documents which irrefutably prove the direct links between the bands and foreign special services.

The counterrevolutionaries have on their conscience the murder of civilians, and explosions and arson in schools, mosques, institutions, and at enterprises. Two years ago Zabih laid a mine in the famous grand mosque of Mazar-e-Sharif. Only the vigilance of the patriots saved this historical and cultural monument from destruction. Sidiq and Zabih laid U.S., Italian, and French manufactured mines, disguised as children's toys, in towns and villages.

A spokesman for the DRA security organs has stated that, with the destruction of Sidiq's band, one of the most bloodthirsty terrorist groups of the Afghan counterrevolution which perpetrated its dark deeds on the territory of the Republic under the leadership of the foreign special services, has been eliminated.

INDIA'S GANDHI INTERVIEWED ON U.S. ARMS IN PAKISTAN

LD251733 Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] San Francisco February 25 TASS -- The deliveries of American weapons to Pakistan have always created problems to India. This was stated in an interview to the newspaper LOS ANGELES TIMES by Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi. We believe that these weapons in the final account will be directed against India, and this ia a concern of ours. This is the biggest problem in our relations with the United States on questions of the given region, he said. Washington regards Pakistan as one of the links of the U.S. broader, global strategy which we consider as unjustified since the Indians want to live in peace with all its neighbours.

When replying to the question as to the latest reports that the U.S. CIA spent millions of dollars to give aid to Afghan counter-revolutionary gangs, which entrenched themselves on the territory of Pakistan, neighbouring on India, the head of the Indian Government noted that the United States allocates for the purpose the biggest sums of money since the end of war in Vietnam. This is another major problem which, along with arms deliveries to Islamabad, is the cause of concern to our Republic.

Rajiv Gandhi favourably spoke of the recent decision taken by New Zealand's Government to ban entries to territorial waters and ports of its country for U.S. ships with nuclear weapons abroad, and also of Greece's unwillingness to have American planes on its territory.

India's prime minister expressed profound anxiety over statements on the possibility of conducting the so-called "limited" or "controlled" nuclear war which are known to be make in the United States. This is an extremely dangerous concept, he said. It will impossible to control any such war if it breaks out.

TASS CITES REUTER ON PAKISTANI ELECTION

LD252247 Moscow TASS in English 2202 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] London February 25 TASS -- The so-called "parliamentary elections" held in Pakistan today exposed once more the anti-people nature of the Pakistani military regime. The Pakistanis were offered to elect persons representing no one to a national assembly whose rights to this day have not been determined by the head of the military administration.

Despite the extraordinary measures taken by the authorities anti-government protests took place in all provinces of the country. They were organized by the opposition movement for the restoration of democracy which urges people to boycott that farce of elections. REUTERS reports that three persons were killed in clashes with the police, tens of others were wounded and arrested.

Brutal reprisals against the opposition in the threshold of the "elections", with thousands of leaders and activists of the movement for the restoration of democracy being thrown into prisons, have not helped the military authorities to ensure a high voter turnout. According to reports of news agencies, not more than ten per cent of registered voters took part in the voting in large cities.

The only one of prominent leaders of the movement for the restoration of democracy who was not arrested by February 25, chairman of Tehrik-i-Istiqlal Party, Asghar Khan hailed the Pakistanis who refused to take part in the hoax covered up by the word "election", REUTERS reports.

Acting chairman of the Pakistani People's Party, the biggest party of the movement for the restoration of democracy, Benazir Bhutto said in London that the aim of the farce of the election is to convince people that Ziaul Haq administration is not a brutal dictatorship. She stressed that such "elections" cannot bring the country back to democracy.

U.S. MILITARY ATTACHE EXPELLED FROM POLAND

LD260948 Moscow TASS in English 0728 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Warsaw February 26 TASS -- The Polish news agency PAP reports that the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated a resolute protest in connection with the activity of Frederick Myer, military attache of the U.S. Embassy in Poland, the activity which is incompatible with the diplomatic status. The U.S. diplomat has been declared persona non grata and is being expelled from the country.

The report points out that Myer together with his wife were photographing Polish military facilities and were detained in the act by militia personnel. Maps with military facilities shown on them, cameras and a photographic film were discovered at the Myers' place during a search. The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasizes that the photographing act was a deliberately provoked incident aimed at worsening Polish-U.S. relations.

CSSR CULTURE DAYS CELEBRATED IN MOSCOW

Havlin-Led Group Arrives

LD242202 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 24 Feb 85

[Text] CSSR Culture Days open in Moscow tomorrow. They are to mark the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia from the fascist occupiers. An official delegation led by Havlin, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, arrived in Moscow today to take part in the CSSR Culture Days.

The delegation was met at the airport by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture; Comrade Shauro, head of the CPSU Central Committee Department of Culture, and other officials.

Aliyev, Kapitonov at Festival

LD260023 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Feb 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] CSSR Culture Days in the Soviet Union, devoted to the 40th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's liberation from the fascist invaders, opened in Moscow today. Present at the festive opening of the CSSR Culture days in the USSR were Comrades Aliyev, Kapitonov; Comrades Stukalin and Shauro, heads of CPSU Central Committee departments; and Comrade Zavadil, Czechoslovak ambassador to the USSR.

Demichev, Havlin Speak

LD260008 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Speeches by Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, and by Havlin, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, at the Bolshoy Theater on 25 February marking the opening of the "CSSR Culture Days"; Havlin speaks in Czech followed by Russian translation -- live or recorded; video shows shots of "Bartered Bride" opera and of Demichev and Havlin speaking]

[Text] [Demichev] Dear comrades and friends! Culture Days of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic open in our country today. They are devoted to the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia from the Hitlerite invaders.

This festival of culture is yet another bright expression of the inviolable friendship of the Soviet and Czechoslovak peoples, which has developed and become strong in the joint battles against fascism, and in the struggle for peace and for construction of socialism. On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, on behalf of those active in the multinational Soviet culture, may I warmly welcome the delegation from the CSSR headed by Comrade Josef Havlin, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. [applause] We also welcome Comrade Matej Lucan, member of the CPCZ Central Committee, deputy chairman of the CSSR Government; [applause] Comrade Miroslav Valek, member of the Central Committee Presidium of the CPSL and member of the CPCZ Central Committee and minister of culture of the Slovak Socialist Republic; [applause] and Comrade Milan Klusak, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and minister of culture of the Czech Socialist Republic; [applause] and also the other members of the official delegation and all those taking part in the CSSR Culture Days.

Today is the 37th anniversary of the victorious February revolution which set the people of Czechoslovakia forth on the road of constructing socialism. May I, from the bottom of my heart, congratulate our dear friends on this remarkable date. [applause]

Fraternal Czechoslovakia's creative energies are flowering. Under the guidance of the Communist Party and its Central Committee, headed by Comrade Gustav Husak, and thanks to the people's intense labor, relying on the close cooperation and fraternal support of the USSR and the whole community of socialist countries, Czechoslovakia has attained high standards in the development of the economy, science, and technology, and socialist culture, and in resolving social problems. Year by year our ties and the exchange of fruitful experience in all spheres, of ideology and politics, of party and state construction, the economy, science, and culture, are becoming broader and deeper. As Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium said, Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship and cooperation is a genuine model and example of good relations and sincere friendship.

Comrades, at present the Soviet people, under the leadership of the Leninist Party, are persistently working to complete the 11th 5-Year Plan. Plans for the economic and social development for 1986-90 are being drafted, as are those for the long term to the year 2000. The forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress, which will discuss and endorse a majestic program for the further development of our society, is an event of world historic importance. We have built a developed socialist society, and today the party is directing us towards the prolonged historical process of all-round perfection. Our efforts are aimed at the further enhancement of economic efficiency, the acceleration of scientific-technological progress, the improvement of social production relations, and the education of the new man. There is no doubt that these most vital tasks will be resolved.

The chief source of energy of a socialist society is the unity of the party and the people. This unity was once again demonstrated yesterday at the elections to the supreme soviets of republics and the local soviets of peoples deputies. The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government, and Comrade Chernenko personally, devote daily attention to and do everything possible, in order to preserve and strengthen peace; to avert the threat of nuclear war and to curb the reactionary forces of imperialism; and to ensure the reliable security of the Soviet Union and of socialist community countries. The peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union and of the socialist countries, and their constructive proposals against the arms race, are finding wider support and the approval of the whole of progressive mankind.

The Culture Days opening today are devoted to the 40th anniversary of victory. The lessons of the past world war are of everlasting significance. The chief one among them is that one must struggle against war before it begins. Historical experience teaches that in order to defend peace, cohesive, coordinated, and energetic action by all peace-loving forces against the aggressive, adventuristic course of imperialism is required. It is the sacred duty of cultural figures to promote the unity of all progressive, peace-loving forces, and to assert man's right to life, to fight for the preservation of our civilization, and to oppose energetically the propaganda of militarism and aggression through all their creative efforts. In the worsened international situation it is imperative for us to work even more energetically, to heighten vigilance, and to protect and multiply the great gains of socialism.

Through their lofty ideological content and artistic level, the cultural ties between the socialist countries have a profound and positive effect on the spiritual lives of our peoples and on the formation of the new man. Today they embrace virtually all kinds and genres of artistic creativity.

Culture and the arts under socialism are one of the effective means to promote the development of fraternal ties and the spiritual enrichment of the people, to strengthen the cohesion of the socialist community countries in their historic struggle for peace and the triumph of communist ideals. Today we can already speak of a new and higher level to our cooperation, about the beneficial reciprocal enrichment of our culture and about the joint creation of spiritual values. A common, international socialist culture is being formed.

It is well known that profoundly ideological, national, and progressive works are an international medium. In the USSR the names of many Czech and Slovak writers and composers, masters of fine arts and applied arts, cinematographers and artistes of various genres are well known; productions of the works of Karel Capek, Jaroslavl Hasek, Viteslav Nezval, talented contemporary dramatists, are loved by Soviet audiences. In the past year alone, 106 works by Czechoslovak writers have been translated into Russian in the Soviet Union. Our audiences know well and like such ensembles from Czechoslovakia as the Symphony Orchestra and the Czech Philharmonia (?choir), the Prague and Slovak National Theaters, the ensembles Sluk, Laterna Magika, and others. In the forthcoming arts festival about 100 productions of plays by Czech and Slovak authors will be shown in Soviet theaters.

It is well known that Czechoslovakia is a country of glorious musical traditions. In socialist conditions the best traditions are not only carefully preserved, but are also developed beneficially, enriched thanks to the work and talent of Czechoslovak composers, musicians and performers. One can be convinced of this once again, attending the opera productions of the Prague National Theater, which marked its 100th anniversary in 1984; attending the concerts of the Symphony Orchestra, the Slovak Philharmonic Choir, the (Linger Singers Ensemble). Doubtlessly, the productions of the Prague Chamber Ballet, which has come to our country for the first time, will arouse great interest in Soviet audiences. There is a varied program of performances by amateur ensembles, which present a wide selection of folk songs and dances of the CSSR. The retrospective exhibition of the arts of socialist Czechoslovakia, which is opening in the State Picture Gallery, will arouse great interest in Muscovites and guests in the capital. Czechoslovak artistes will give concerts in 35 towns in the union republics; there will be displays of artistic, documentary, and book exhibitions; films and folk art items will be on show.

With joy, the Soviet people receive the Czechoslovak delegation of artists, composers, writers, theater figures, cinematographers, and architects.

During meetings, representatives of the creative intelligentsia of our countries will discuss both professional matters and problems of further deepening of cultural cooperation. We are confident that the festival of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic's culture will be successful -- it is also our festival. There is no doubt that it will be a clear demonstration of the indestructible friendship of our peoples, based on the common nature of Marxist-Leninist outlook and unity of purpose, and will demonstrate the grand successes made in building a new life. This means that yet another step will be taken in implementing the tasks set by the CPSU and the CPCZ to promote, by means of culture and the arts, further rapprochement and the spiritual reciprocal enrichment of our peoples and to achieve new successes in social ... construction.

I thank you for your attention. [applause] Dear comrades, may I give the floor to Comrade Josef Havlin, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. [applause]

[Havlin] Dear Soviet friends, comrades! In the year of the celebrated anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people over German fascism and Japanese militarism, representatives of Czechoslovak culture and art come to you. In the words of the national hero Julius Fucik, they come to the beloved country in order to express -- through words and songs, music, and pictures -- happiness with our fraternity and alliance and with creative, peaceful life. They come to you as representatives of the people of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on whose behalf they want to pay homage to our liberators, the people of the USSR and its glorious Communist Party. They come in order to demonstrate our people's firm determination to continue in our joint struggle for peace and socialism. It is not by chance that we open the Culture Days just today, the day of the 37th anniversary of the celebrated February days of 1948, when our people finally decided on the socialist construction of Czechoslovakia. Allow me to thank, from the bottom of my heart, on behalf of the Czechoslovak delegation, Petr Nilovich Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, for his warm words and the great praise he addressed to the CPCZ, our people and our socialist fatherland and its culture and art when speaking on this festive occasion.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to convey to you all and to all Soviet people sincere comradely greetings form Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, together with wishes for new victories in implementing the program of perfecting advanced socialist society. [applause]

USSR, HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS MLET

PM251130 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] On 21 February USSR Deputy Foreign Minister B.I. Aristov received J. Toth, chief of a Hungarian Foreign Ministry department, who was in Moscow to have consultations. Questions of mutual interest were discussed during the talk.

CHERNENKO ADDRESSES FOREWORD TO ITALIAN READERS

PM251149 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 85 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "For the Sake of Maintaining Peace on Earth; K.U. Chernenko's Address to Italian Readers"]

[Text] Rome, 23 Feb (TASS) -- A solemn ceremony took place in the USSR Embassy in Italy, at which "Selected Articles and Speeches," a book by Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, was officially launched for the Italian public. The book is published with a mass run by the well-known Italian publishing house, "Mondadori."

The book opens with an address by Konstantin Chernenko to Italian readers, which says, in part:

I willingly respond to the request from the "Mondadori" Publishing House to write a message to Italian readers for a collection of some of my articles and speeches. Geographically, our states are situated rather far apart, but our peoples have much in common. Over the centuries, from time immemorial, they have maintained and continue to develop various and extensive ties. It is not easy to find areas of human endeavor devoid of mutually enriching contacts between them. The Soviet people and the Italians, despite the fact that throughout the long history of relations between them there have certainly been other than cloudless periods continue to have feelings of sincere sympathy and mutual respect for each other. This is the main thing. It is in this, along with objective political and economic factors, that we see a good basis for development and improvement of relations between the USSR and the Italian Republic, which is especially essential now, in the nuclear age, when the question of collaboration among states in order to preserve peace in the world and in order to save our civilization on earth begins to arise.

Large masses of people, both ordinary citizens and many state leaders, are gripped by alarm for the future of the world. This is particularly noticeable in Europe, our common home. It is no accident that antiwar actions in many European countries have assumed a mass nature. The statements made this year and last by a number of West European statesmen in favor of peace and talks on weapons limitation and reduction complete the overall picture. Soviet people are particularly greatly impressed, too, by the persistence with which President S. Pertini of the Italian Republic issues appeals for peace, disarmament, and the cooperation. We are grateful to him, a convinced antifascist, for his reminder that Soviet Union paid "the very highest price that has ever had to be paid by a people in war -- 20 million dead."

In spring 1985 the peoples of the world will mark the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, the most brutal and bloody war in the history of mankind. We are proud that Soviet people also took the most direct part in the battles against the Nazi fascist scum on Italian territory. We are grateful to the Italians for honoring the memory of our compatriots who made their contribution, frequently at the cost of their own lives, to the cause of liberating Italy, to the cause of the common victory.

Thanks to that victory 40 years ago the path was opened up to what was subsequently to be called the all-European process, a most important landmark in which the 1975 Helsinki Conference took place. That conference left a deep imprint in the life of our continent. No matter how hard the proponents of the cold war assert that detente is "dead", we can see that over the 10 years that have passed since the Helsinki Final Act was signed, the European peoples have not only not forgotten Helsinki, but in fact are continually applying fresh efforts to continue the movement along the route that was marked out there.

I have already had occasion to say -- and I will repeat it again -- that the supreme interest of the Soviet people, of Soviet statesmen and party leaders lies in achieving the curtailment of the arms race, and primarily that involving nuclear arms. We are willing to cover our part of the road, going as far as the complete elimination of weapons of mass destruction, if the other side will also take up a constructive position and accept the principle of equality and identical security.

Guided by the Leninist principles of foreign policy, we oppose the accumulation of explosive material, wherever it takes place. We are in favor of completely freeing Europe from nuclear weapons, wherever they may be deployed: on the ground, at sea, in the air, or even in space. Instead of building up a potential for mutual destruction, concern must be taken to ensure worthy living conditions in our world for the present and future generations. For as technical progress develops, more and more global problems build up for people living on earth, and particularly ecological problems. Work ought to be carried out jointly on their solution.

Soviet people are engaged in peaceful labor. Vast building work and the integrated mastery of new areas, particularly in Siberia, is taking place throughout the country. In this connection one recalls the times when Italians, thanks to their inventiveness and enterprise, laid down new paths in international cooperation and set an example to others. Initiative of this kind was highly valued in the past and would also be useful at the present time. For our part, we are willing to study the possibility of wider Italian participation in the impelmentation of our wide-ranging plans. Moreover, this does not just concern trade, economic and scientific-technical cooperation. In a word, we are in favor of the most full-blooded and mutually advantageous relations with Italy.

In conclusion, I would like to express the hope that familiarity with the collection of my articles and speeches on the part of Italian readers will help toward a better understanding of the present-day life of the Soviet people, their aspirations and strivings.

Withall my heart I wish the Italian people prosperity in conditions of lasting peace.

The ceremony at the USSR Embassy was attended by Italian Foreign Minister G. Andreotti, senators and deputies of the Italian Parliament, members of the Italian Communist Party leadership, diplomats and representatives of public organizations. The ceremony was carried on national television.

In his speech G. Andreotti said in part that the Soviet leaders's address to the Italian reader is of exceptional importance. It should be regarded as political and diplomatic document.

Noting that the book has been published on the eve of the visit to Italy by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR minister of foreign affairs, G. Andreotti said: We attach particular importance to the current year. The year began well with the Geneva meeting. We are all aware that one must not expect miracles from people, and particularly from politicians. The problems are difficult and much patience will be required. However, the main thing is that the dialogue has been resumed.

SOVIET-ITALIAN TRADE RELATIONS VIEWED

PM251131 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent N. Paklin dispatch: "USSR-Italy: The Effect of Cooperation"]

[Excerpts] Rome -- In 1984 the volume of Soviet-Italian trade amounted to R4.5 billion.

Italy was in third place, after the FRG and Finland, among the developed capitalist countries in the Soviet Union's foreign trade turnover. However, in comparison with 1984 growth was minimal -- just 1 percent. This primarily due to the fact that during the period of the "pause for thought," which lasted 2 and 1/2 years, the business activeness of Italian firms in the Soviet market fell markedly. Understandably, this did not promote the development of trade between our countries or the utilization of existing favorable opportunities. Here is one fact: The agreement on additional deliveries of Soviet natural gas to Italy was signed between the "Soyuzgazeksport" production association and the Italian SNAM company back in January 1982 but, since the Italian Government did not agree to bring it into force, it was null and void. A new agreement on additional gas deliveries was concluded only in spring 1984. The sides have now embarked on its implementation.

The year 1985 started with the signing of a number of large-scale economic agreements between the Soviet Union and Italy. They include a contract with the Cogolo firm for the construction on "turnkey" terms of three footwear factories in Moscow, Kaluga, and Tolyatti in 1985-1987. This is yet another vivid example of how, given a mutual wish, trade between our two countries has every possibility for development along an ascending line.

PRAVDA CITES ITALIAN CP DOCUMENT ON PEACE

PM251027 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "In the Fraternal Parties": "PCI Leadership Document"]

[Text] Rome, 23 Feb -- New, exceptionally great efforts must be made today in the struggle for detente and disarmament an Italian Communist Party [PCI] leadership document issued here on the problems of peace says. The PCI leadership, it notes, has adopted a decision to organize a mass meeting of supporters of peace in Venice on 3 March on the threshold of the Soviet-U.S. talks.

Italian Communists positively assess the decision to hold talks in Geneva. The implementation of these first steps was also promoted by the concern expressed by the peoples of the world, the wide mobilization of peace-loving forces, and the activity of political parties and public organizations.

The document particularly notes that "the destructive consequences that could ensue from the creation of 'star wars' arms systems mustr not be underestimated." In this way the nuclear arms race would be extended into space, thus expanding the process of militarization and increasing the danger of the accidental outbreak of war. In addition, the document points out, there would be an unprecedented increase in military spending and an expansion of the military-industrial complexes. This turn of events runs counter to the needs of social and economic development in the world, especially for the poorest and most backward countries, where millions of people are dying from hunger and epidemics.

The PCI leadership pointed to the importance of the EEC countries' contribution to the process of achieving an accord on questions if disarmament and detente. In the Italian Communists' opinion, tremendous significance would be attached to an Italian Government decision to postpone the siting, planned for spring, of new American nuclear missiles at Comiso (Sicily), where the first missiles are already in operational readiness, and to refuse any new commitments concerning the American naval base in Maddalena Island. In the present situation, it is noted in conclusion, the PCI leadership issues an appeal, especially to young people, to develop the peace movement even more widely.

FURTHER ON PAPANDREOU'S DINNER SPEECH IN MOSCOW

NC120731 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 0500 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Report by radio-television correspondent Andonios Kokorikos from Moscow -- recorded]

[Excerpts] The joint efforts undertaken by the Soviet Union and Greece are intended to render our cooperative bilateral relations more productive and fruitful, serving the interests of both countries and of world peace. With these words, Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, welcomed Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, who is on an official visit to Moscow. Tikhonov held a dinner in Papandreou's honor immediately after the first round of talks between the two countries' governmental delegations.

At the official dinner, Tikhonov made reference to the international situation, stressing that there can be no indifferent observers in the struggle against the arms race.

Replying to Tikhonov's address, Papandreou referred to the improvement in bilateral relations in recent years, to the international situation, to the Cyprus issue, to the initiative recently undertaken by six world leaders, and to the arms race. The Greek prime minister stressed: We, the Greeks, would like to see the greatest portion of our defense budget allocated instead to our people's economic and social development. However, he added, as you know, we are facing a defense problem related to the views expressed and goals being sought by a neighboring country: Specifically, Turkey's intention is to expand its control over areas that are part of the Greek nation. This has been demonstrated both by statements and by specific actions. This compels us to take the appropriate defensive measures. We insist on compliance with existing international accords that govern the status quo of the Aegean area. Respect for these agreements is a necessary basis for peaceful and sincere cooperation with our neighbor. We remain determined to defend what is ours, while laying claim to nothing that belongs to others.

FRG PARTY LEADER MAKES 'MILITARISTIC' APPEAL

LD251756 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- TASS commentator Lev Aksyonov writes:

The chairman of the Christian-Social Union (CSU) of West Germany Franz-Josef Strauss who spoke in Munich came out for the active participation of West European countries in the U.S. program of "star wars". According to Strauss, West Europeans should not continually grumble when Americans set themselves new tasks. The Bavarian politician said that the strategy of nuclear intimidation could not be eliminated by the "round dances" of participants in the anti-war movement. In the opinion of Strauss, only the appearance of new armaments can remove the threat of the utilization of nuclear weapons.

According to his blundering logic, only the stepping up of the arms race can lead to the removal of the threat of a thermonuclear conflict. Urging to intensify the arms race, Strauss expresses the aspirations of the revanchist circles of West Germany which strive to create the material basis for the implementation of the plans of the revision of post-war political realities on the continent.

On the other hand, being an obedient executor of the will of the military-industrial complex of West Germany which firmly entrenched itself in Bavaria, Strauss tries to bring pressure to bear on those West European countries which met with concern and misgivings the U.S. plans of the transfer of the arms race to outer space. These include, in the first plac, such NATO member countries as Belgium, Denmark, Holland and France.

The appeals of Strauss which are militaristic by their nature should be regarded also as an attempt to exert pressure on the population of West Germany itself. The unprecedented scope of the anti-war and anti-missile movement in that countries vividly shows that millions of ordinary West Germans are aware of the real threat coming from the whipping up of the arms race by the NATO leaders.

By supporting the "star wars" program, Strauss deliberately ignores the obvious fact that for densely populated Western Europe the spreading of the arms race to new spheres is fraught with most serious consequences. However, logic could hardly be called a characteristic feature of the Munich leaders. The "space card" of the CSU leader is dramatically at variance with the interests of West Germany and its citizens.

MILITARIZATION OF FRG SCIENCE, SDI SUPPORT VIEWED

LD261101 Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- TASS news analyst Aleksey Grigoriyev writes:

Five chairs of aircraft and space research at the Technical University of Munich have long since become scientific branches of such military concerns as Messerschmitt-Belkow-Blohm (MBB), Morten-und Turbinenunion (MTU), Krauss-Maffei and others. This report of the magazine FRONTAL was featured at one time by all newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. But it revealed only the tip of an iceberg.

The militarisation of West German science is closely linked with the intensive muscle-building by the military-industrial complex and the growth of arms manufacture and arms exports, now topping an astronomical figure of 8.6 billion marks a year. Another, still more alarming, factor has appeared lately: "The strategic defence initiative" proclaimed by the U.S. President was received with great interest both in the Bonn corridors of power and at the offices of Bavarian and Ruhr military concerns.

This was especially made clear at the recent international conference of the Wehrkunde military-scientific society in Munich where Washington made an all-out effort to seduce its West European allies with a space-based anti-missile defence system. Properly speaking, the Americans did not have to seduce their West German hosts in Munich, for Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Defence Minister Manfred Woerner and Bavarian Prime Minister Franz-Joseph Strauss actually subscribed Reagan's plans for "star wars". Strauss, speaking in his characteristic manner and turning everything upside down, even described this programme as -- "space for peace". Chancellor Kohl said that Bonn was prepared to cooperate in carrying out these plans and urged other NATO partners to do the same. "I insistently recommend you not to miss this chance", he stressed.

The chancellor's reservations or explanations by Peter Boenisch, an official representative of his government, do not change the matter. Bonn may say, of course, that it has no intention of joining alone in the U.S. plans and that it has "not been invited so far" to do so.

It may refer to the White House's promises that a space-based anti-missile defence system will allegedly make nuclear weapons unnecessary and allegedly deliver mankind forever from the nuclear threat. The fact remains a fact and it was noted in Munich. "It's terrible that the efforts of talented scientists and engineers should be devoted to the development of arms whose purpose is to destroy this planet", Egon Bahr, a prominent figure in the Social Democratic Party of Germany, said at the conference.

Roland Yogt, parliamentary representative of the Greens party on disarmament questions, deputy of the Bundestag, added: "The fact that Kohl calls for cooperation in the development of American space-based armaments show irrefutably the government's complete subordination to the United States".

The militarization of science in West Germany was started long ago, just as its cooperation with the United States and other NATO countries in the development and manufacture of new armaments. West German monopolies, especially the symbiosis of its two leading concerns, Messerschmitt-Belkow-Blohm and Krauss-Maffei, are well in a position to participate in the preparation of "star wars". These gentlemen will not miss the chance offered by the U.S. President and approved on the Rhine. Bonn, eager to become a co-owner of space arms, still more dangerous ones than ground-based nuclear weapons, is trying to enlist the cooperation of other NATO members, Italy in particular, in this field. So, first a Washington-Bonn axis in space and then a Bonn-Rome axis?... Axes established at one time with a similar aggressive purpose were broken forty years ago. Forty years. Not long ago to be forgotten [as received].

MARCHAIS URGES VOTES FOR FRENCH COMMUNISTS

LD252256 Moscow TASS in English 2251 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Paris February 25 TASS -- General Secretary of the French Communist Party Georges Marchais made a call to French men and women to cast their ballots for Communists at the cantonal elections to be held in March. In his speech broadcast by "France Enter" radio station he pointed to the importance of a strong Communist Party for the solution of acute social and economic problems facing the country.

Touching upon the political situation in France, the leader of the French Communist Party stressed that the stand assumed by leading bourgeois parties does not meet the interests of ordinary people.

Touching upon the situation in New Caledonia, an overseas territory of France in the Southern Pacific, the general secretary of the French Communist Party declared for the exercise of the right of the native population to self-determination and independence.

U.S., W. EUROPE DIFFER ON TECHNOLOGY EXPORTS

PM221539 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by own correspondent Ye. Korolev: "Gruff Voices From the Other Side of the Atlantic"]

[Text] Bonn -- The contradictions between the United States and its European NATO allies over exports of high technology to the socialist countries are continuing to grow more acute.

This is evidenced by the visit Lothar Spaeth, prominent Christian Democratic Union (CDU) figure and minister-president of Baden-Wuerttemberg, has just paid to the United States. According to reports in the West German press, during Spaeth's stay in the United States, he was told in rather harsh terms that the FRG is "disregarding" NATO restrictions on exports of technology to the socialist countries.

As it is, Washington is using sanctions against West German scientists, preventing them from attending scientific events in the United States. The U.S. Society of Manufacturing Engineering, which has 7,500 foreign members, held a conference in January without inviting them.

Thus, on the pretext of the "Red danger," Washington is even depriving its allies of natural scientific and technical cooperation in an effort not only to secure military superiority over the USSR, but also to bring its Western competitors to their knees.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES UPCOMING NATO MANEUVERS

LD252059 Moscow TASS in English 2019 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Moscow February 25 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Vladimir Matyash:

The British GUARDIAN newspaper reported that three-week NATO exercises, code-named 'Wintex,' are to begin February 26. All member-countries of the North Atlantic alliance except Greece are to take part. In the words of the GUARDIAN during these command and staff exercises, the NATO allies are to practice their joint actions in case of aggravation of the political situation and even possible combat operations involving the use of nuclear weapons.

It is appropriate to ask: Who stands to gain from these exercises on the eve of Soviet-U.S. negotiations in Geneva on the entire complex of space and nuclear arms? There can be only one answer. These exercises, like so many others, have a pronounced anti-Soviet tilt and motivated by the desire to aggravate tensions in the world even further. For it is absolutely obvious that such war games of NATO countries are fraught with the threat of escalation of the arms race and are at a basic variance with the interests of European people. Moreover, they constitute a threat to peace and security as a whole.

This tilt makes itself felt unmistakably in the training of strategic offensive forces of the U.S.A. In the past the exercises of U.S. strategic forces had a relatively modest scale. But in the past few years they have been regularly holding 'Global Shield' exercises, something without precedent in scope and the composition of the forces taking part, to practice plans of a strategic nuclear war on the Soviet Union. During these exercises intercontinental ballistic missiles are launched and massive flights of strategic aviation toward the Soviet Union's territory are conducted. The area encompassed by the exercises is expanding with every year to include, in addition to the territories of the U.S.A. and Canada, those of Western Europe, Asia, Australia, and also the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans.

U.S. military strategy embodied in multi-optional plans of aggressive wars in the interests of attaining the global aims of U.S. imperialism, large-scale preparations of material facilities for war, including with unrestrained use of nuclear weapons, are fraught with a threat to peace and are driving mankind toward the verge of an abyss.

SCANDINAVIAN NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE ISSUE SUPPORTED

PM251201 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent M. Kostikov dispatch: "Non-Nuclear Status for Northern Europe"]

[Text] Helsinki, February -- A broad response in the political and social circles of the northern European countries and a wave of press, radio, and TV commentaries have been evinced by the reply of K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the appeal from the northern European "Treaty Now" organization, which opposes the nuclear arms race and advocates peace, stability, and international cooperation in the region, and above all the declaration of northern Europe as a nuclear-free zone.

The creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe is an urgent question. The majority of the Nordic countries' population are demanding concrete moves from their governments and parliaments in this direction. Dozens of peace organizations and antiwar movements, including "Treaty Now," and hundreds of trade unions and groups have united under the common slogans "No to nuclear weapons" and "Nuclear-free zone for the north."

Last year the parliaments of the Faroe Islands and Greenland (part of Denmark with internal autonomy rights) declared their territories nuclear-free zones. A meeting was held in Copenhagen between representatives of the Nordic countries' public who are advocating the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe. Figures from political parties, the trade unions, women's youth, religious organizations, unions, peace movements took part in it. The meeting examined the entire range of questions, including questions of international law, linked with this problem. A conference of the Cooperation Committee of Nordic Social-Democratic Parties and Trade Unions held in Oslo at the start of 1985 discussed the question of holding a forum of parliamentarians from the region's countries which it is planned to hold in the Danish capital this fall, on the problem of creating a nuclear-free zone.

U.K. Kekkonen, outstanding Finnish politician and former Finnish president, was so right and wise then, long before NATO's 1979 missile decision, he referred to the danger of northern Europe's involvement in the arms race process, spoke precisely for that reason of the need for talks to prevent this threat, and substantiated and developed the idea of a nuclear-free zone for northern Europe.

There are several reasons for this. The realistic nature of the very idea is attractive, as is the fact that its implementation would promote the strengthening of security and the peaceful development of each of the Nordic countries, both the NATO members -- Denmark, Norway, and Iceland -- and neutral Sweden, and Finland, which has a 1948 treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid with the USSR. Second, the creation of a nuclear-free zone with corresponding guarantees from the nuclear powers over its status would reinforce in international law the current de facto non-nuclear position of all the northern European states.

The increased attention being devoted to the idea of a nuclear-free north is a reflection of the mounting alarm of the Nordic countries' publics in connection with the U.S. and NATO course of accelerated preparations by West Europe for a nuclear war and the intensification of militarist preparations in Norway, Denmark, and Iceland.

The continuing siting in West Europe of U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles creates a fundamentally new military-strategic situation on the continent, fraught with serious danger for the present comparatively peaceful situation of the Nordic countries and for their security.

The appearance of new U.S. nuclear missiles in direct proximity to the Nordic countries makes the threat of the use of their airspace to launch these weapons, which are targeted on the USSR and its allies, real and sinister. According to figures from military experts, the flight trajectories of these missiles -- be they ground-launched from Britain, for instance, or sea-launched from the Norwegian Sea -- will pass over the territory not only of the Scandinavian NATO members, but Sweden and Finland, too, thereby attracting immense danger. It was not accident that, speaking at the celebrations to mark the 25th anniversary of the "Passikivi Society," Finnish Foreign Minister P. Vayrynen stated that talks between the Nordic countries on the formation of a nuclear-free zone are necessary as a consequence of the new threat created by cruise missiles.

The opponents of the creation of a nuclear-free zone cite the fact that the north is allegedly nuclear-free, since Norway and Denmark have officially stated their refusal to site nuclear weapons and foreign military bases on their territories in peacetime, and Finland and Sweden have none. However, the creation of a nuclear-free zone, the Nordic countries' peace-loving public is noting, would place certain political and juridical barriers in the way of nuclear adventures and would make it possible to strengthen the region's security.

There have recently been more and more cases testifying to the buildup of U.S. and NATO block militarist preparations in the region. Thus, for instance, U.S. heavy military hardware, including artillery pieces that could be used to fire nuclear and neutron charges, are being stockpiled in Norway. According to a secret agreement concluded in 1974 and recently made public, Norway's ruling circles have granted the Pentagon eight "reserve" airfields for USAF nuclear-capable planes. Norway's naval bases are being adapted to receive U.S. missile-carrying submarines. U.S. militarist preparations are also being cranked up on Danish and Icelandic territory. The construction of control complexes for U.S. nuclear missiles in under way.

The Nordic countries' public is also alarmed by the provocative nature of the military exercises by NATO's mobile forces in northern Norway near the borders of Finland and the USSR.

The Soviet Union is interested in ensuring that on its borders and throughout the region the foundations of peace are firmly stable and people do not live in fear of nuclear annihilation. That is why the USSR does not only sympathize with the idea of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe but is prepared to promote its establishment.

The Soviet Union's policy is fully consonant with the noble aspirations of the movement in support of the creation of nuclear-free zones. The USSR has unilaterally adopted the commitment to no first use of nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union will not use nuclear weapons against states that renounce the production and acquisition of these weapons and do not have any on their territory. Moreover, the Soviet Union has put forward a concrete program of measures of eradicate the nuclear threat in general by way of radical restrictions and reductions of nuclear weapons leading to their complete elimination.

The mounting pace of the U.S. and NATO military machine increases, in the eyes of millions of proponents of a nuclear-free north, the urgent need to stop up efforts opposing the dangerous militarist preparations, above all in translating the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone into a practical solution. The creation of a nuclear-free northern Europe and the ensuring of lasting peace in the region would reflect extremely positively on the security of the countries participating in it and would remove them from the zone of mounting nuclear threat. Indisputably, the northern Europe example could have a fruitful influence on the situation in Europe as a whole.

Unlike the United States, our country has supported the initiative on turning northern Europe into a nuclear-free zone from the very start. This was reaffirmed in K.U. Chernenko's reply to the appeal from the "Treaty Now" organization. The Soviet side stated once again the USSR's readiness to act as guarantor of the nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, to examine the question of certain essential measures to be taken with regard to the part of its own territory adjoining the zone, which would promote the strengthening of its nuclear-free status, and to discuss with interested countries the questions of giving the Baltic Sea nuclear-free status.

The Soviet Union does not make these steps conditional on positive attitudes to the nuclear-free zone from the Western Powers, although, naturally, the importance of the creation of the zone would be more complete for all its participants if similar commitments were also undertaken by the NATO nuclear powers.

This position of the USSR, a great power and direct neighbor or the Nordic countries, is seen in the region as a weighty factor in favor of a nuclear-free north, in support of strengthening the foundations of peace, and to the benefit of detente in the region. It was received with satisfaction by the Finnish leadership. The USSR's readiness to promote the proclamation of a Nordic nuclear-free zone has also been highly assessed by Swedish Prime Minister O. Palme.

The task of creating a nuclear-free zone could be considerably furthered even now if the ruling circles of the Scandinavian NATO members -- Norway, Denmark, and Iceland -- rejected their "wait and see" position and participated in the dialogue without reference to the United States but guided by their own peoples' desires and their countries' security interests.

Undoubtedly, resolving the question of a nuclear-free north is first and foremost a matter for the countries of the region themselves. There are many difficulties in the way, linked mainly with the U.S. course of hostility to the idea of a nuclear-free north. However, even within the Scandinavian countries themselves there are influential forces opposing the idea of a nuclear-free north.

Certain Scandinavian politicians, primarily from the NATO countries, try to hitch the problem of declaring northern Europe a nuclear-free zone to the resolution of a whole series of other international problems concerning nuclear arms. In particular, they strive to link the question to the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. Geneva talks, although it is in no way part of their objectives. The problems of creating nuclear-free zones, including a zone in northern Europe, are, as K.U. Chernenko has noted, subject to independent resolution, which would open new opportunities for strengthening confidence and reducing tension both in Europe and in the whole world.

The idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe enjoys the support of millions of Swedes, Finns, Danes, Icelanders, and Norwegians. Their will dictates the adoption of specific steps to implement it.

MUBARAK PROPOSAL FOR MIDEAST PEACE CRITICIZED

LD252326 Moscow TASS in English 1947 GMT 25 Feb 85

["Flouting the Interests of Arabs" -- TASS headline]

[Text] New York February 25 TASS — In an interview to THE NEW YORK TIMES President Mubarak of Egypt called on the Reagan administration to invite to the United States representatives of Israel and members of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in order, as he put it, to lay the groundwork for direct talks with Israel. Touching on the question of convening an international conference on the Middle East Mubarak said that he preferred first direct talks between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel while the conference, he went on, could be held after the conclusion of an agreement.

Such a strange approach to the idea of convening an international forum on the Middle East cannot but cause surprise since the overwhelming majority of Arab states welcomes the other approach. Resolutely rejecting separate talks leading to a division of Arab ranks, a weakening of the Arab positions in the international arena and, ultimately, to the consolidation of full Israeli and United States domination in the region, the Arab peoples consistently come out for collective efforts by all interested sides directed at achieving a just peace in the Middle East. The common Arab position on this matter is to convene first of all in international conference on the Middle East. This stand is recorded in documents of conferences of heads of state or government of Arab countries, in numerous statements by the leaders of almost all Arab states and in resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly.

This will of the peoples was also reflected in the Soviet Union's proposals on a Middle East settlement set forth last June. The Soviet proposals outline the main principles of normalising the situation in the region -- strict observance of the principle of impermissibility of seizing the land of others by way of aggression, return to the Arabs of all territories occupied by Isreael in 1967, including the eastern part of Jerusalem, ensurement of the inalienable right of the Palestine people to self-determination, to the creation of its own independent state of Palestinian lands, real safeguarding of the rights of all states to secure an independent existence, termination of the state of war and establishmen of people, [as received], provision of international guarantees of the settlement.

As it is stressed in the the Soviet proposals, the road of collective efforts with the participation of all interested sides is the only correct and effective way of ensuring a cardinal solution of the Middle East problem, in other words, talks within the framework of a sepcially convened for these aims international conference on the Middle East under the aegis of the United Nations Organisation and attended, as a full-fledged participant, by the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people.

It is absolutely clear that the talks in the United States and with the participation of the United States, that were proposed by Mubarak, will be used to push Jordan to accept a capitualatory agreement modelled on the notorious fettering agreement between Israel and Lebanon. What the latter had brought about is well known. The Lebanese people rejected the yoke put on its neck by Israel and Tel Aviv's "strategic ally" -- the United States.

It is indicative that although there is yet no sign of separate talks with the participation of Jordan still the United States is trying already now to put pressure on Jordan by stating that it does not like such moments in the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement as the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East and the participation of the PLO's representatives in the talks. The United States Administration is pressing for direct talks with Israel in conditions of the continuing Israeli occupation of the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip.

As to Israel itself, only yesterday its foreign minister Shamir stated once again a "no" to talks with the PLO and the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

It follows from this that in the opinion of the strategic allies -- Tel Aviv and Washington -- the Camp David accords alone and their slightly redone model -- the so-called "Reagan plan" -- should form the basis of the approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Arabs know well what this means. This means surrender to the American-Israeli demands, a solution of the Middle East crisis to the detriment of Arab interests, assertion of Israeli domination over the region. This approach implies also a rejection of the joint measures worked out by the heads of Arab states in the Moroccan town of Fez on the Middle East settlement and flouting of the lawful rights of the Palestinian people.

The American-Israeli tactics push the Arab countries to conclude [word indistinct] deals, to hold bilateral contacts and talks with Israel with the aim of ensuring Tel Aviv's and Washington's interests in the Middle East to the deteriment of the national aspirations of the Arabs.

LEBANON CALLS FOR UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

LD252214 Moscow TASS in English 1957 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] New York February 25 TASS -- The Lebanese Government called today for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to discuss the persisting aggression and reprisals by the Israeli occupation troops in the south of Lebanon, in the western part of Bekaa Valley and in the area of Rashayya. This demand is contained in a letter addressed by permanent representative of Lebanon at the United Nations to the Security Council president.

A sharp deterioration of the situation in Lebanon has been brought about by a new campaign of terror unleashed by the Israeli invaders against the population of the occupied territories right after the announcement of the beginning of the so-called "phased withdrawal" of their troops from the south of Lebanon.

Last Sunday, units of the Israeli Army, supported by tanks and armoured personnel carriers, staged an orgy of violence in nine villages east of the city of Tyre. They broke into the villages, subjected their residents to humiliating interrogation, ruthlessly beat them up, burnt and pulled down by bulldozers peasant houses. According to figures released by the Lebanese press, the invaders' action left some 20 Lebanese dead, dozens wounded and hundreds arrested over the last five days.

USSR, IRAQ SIGN AGREEMENT ON IRAQ OIL DEPOSIT

LD201645 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Correspondent Vladimir Stepanov dispatch from Baghdad]

[Text] A new intergovernmental agreement has been signed in Baghdad between the Soviet Union and Iraq on cooperation in the assimilation of one of Iraq's major oil deposits.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Isam al-Chalabi, under secretary at the Iraqi Ministry of the Oil Industry;

[Begin Al-Chalabi recording in Arabic fading into superimposed Russian translation] With the signing of the latest agreement, we are opening yet another page in the history of expanding our economic and technical cooperation. We have already achieved great successes within the framework of this cooperation. I would also like to confirm Iraq's desire to continue in the future to find new areas for expanding and deepening our cooperation, including the areas of industrial plant construction, irrigation, power engineering, and so on. [end recording]

I would like, Isam al-Chalabi said in conclusion, to thank all Soviet specialists making a great contribution to the economic development of Iraq.

MALIAN PARTY DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW 9-16 FEB

PM221017 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Party Ties"]

[Text] A delegation of the Democratic Union of the Malian People [UDPM] headed by S. Diarra, member of the UDPM National Council and deputy speaker of the Mali National Assembly, was in the USSR 9 through 16 February in accordance with the plan for party ties between the CPSU and the UDPM.

The delegation was received at the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work and International Departments and acquainted itself with the work of CPSU party educational institutions in Moscow and Leningrad.

The Malian guests expressed satisfaction of the results of their visit to the USSR and noted the great significance for the UDPM of the CPSU's experience in the sphere of training party cadres.

SWAPO CHIEF NUJOMA MAKES PRESS STATEMENT

PM251153 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent M. Zenovich report: "Freedom and Independence for Namibia: S. Nujoma's Statement"]

[Text] Luanda, 22 Feb -- The South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) has declared 1985 a year of united actions for the sake of the people's victory. This year is the 25th anniversary of the struggle for Namibia's liberation under that organization's leadership.

In a press statement, SWAPO President Sam Nujoma sharply condemned the South African racist regime's new attempts to bury the question of granting true independence to Namibia and to impose on its people some kind of "government" made up of representatives of the puppet "internal parties" belonging to the so-called "multiparty conference." They are gambling on keeping Namibia in the position of a South African vassal and the target of economic plundering. As before, Pretoria is ignoring Security Council Resolution No 435 and is seeking to install a puppet regime in the country, representing it as a "real political force" as a counterweight to SWAPO.

In condemning these racist maneuvers SWAPO also rejects the Reagan administration's "constructive cooperation" policy with regard to South Africa, because of which the Namibian people are condemned to new sufferings and sacrifices.

Sam Nujoma declared SWAPO's unchanging readiness to embark on the immediate fulfillment of Security Council Resolution No 435, beginning with a cease-fire as a first step. But because of the absence of willingness on South Africa's part to do this, he said, we have no choice but to continue the political, diplomatic, and armed struggle and make the racist regime reckon with the fact that the question of Namibia's independence cannot be resolved without SWAPO's participation.

CPSU DELEGATION VISITS NICARAGUA 18-20 FEB

PM250903 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Accordance With the Plan for Contacts"]

[Text] Managua, 21 Feb -- In accordance with the plan for contacts between the CPSU and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], delegation of party officials headed by V.N. Ignatenko, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department, visited the Republic of Nicaragua 18-20 February to discuss questions of mutual interest.

The delegation was received by Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the Political Commission of the National Leadership of the FSLN.

NICARAGUAN CHEMICAL WEAPON POSSESSION DENIED

LD252046 Moscow TASS in English 1934 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Washington February 25 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutyy:

The greater the lie, the sooner it will be believed. This principle of Goebbel's sinister propaganda is now in vogue in Washington. By using deception the Reagan administration would like to cover up its own ventures dangerous for peoples. One more example of this is the "sensational discovery" made the other day by U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff John Vessey that Nicaragua has chemical weapons. Speaking in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the chief of the Pentagon said he had no doubts that Nicaraguans had acquired equipment for conducting chemical warfare.

On what facts does Weinberger base his assertion? It has turned out that he has no facts. He had to make a recourse to General Vessey's support, who alleged that the U.S. intelligence established in "recent months" that mobile degassing facilities were brought into Nicaragua.

There are no facts to prove this. Nevertheless, Washington launched this falsehood. Even if degassing facilities appeared in Nicaragua, as the Pentagon officials claim, it is common knowledge that their purpose is not the waging of chemical warfare, but defence against it, the clearing of the localities from chemical gases. And the Nicaraguans should protect themselves. For several years now the CIA has been sending into the territory of that sovereign state bandits equipped with the latest types of armaments.

It has been an open secret for long that Washington supplies chemical weapons to the Salvadoran military which is perpetrating terror against its own people. Chemical ammunition with the trade mark "Made in USA" was used more than once by so-called "fighters for freedom" in Afghanistan encouraged by the U.S. Administration. Maybe they in Washington seek to justify the plans of the use of chemical weapons in Nicaragua by advancing now the obviously slanderous accusations against that country?

It is characteristic that Weinberger and Vessey came out with their "sensation" on the day when President Reagan unambiguously confirmed at a press conference that the aim of his policy is to overthrow the lawful Government of Nicaragua. Thus, the latest slanderous demarche against the Sandinist revolution is part of a sordid campaign contradicting basic international norms. The administration's allegations have one more reason: It tries to distract the attention of the public from its own feverish preparations for waging chemical and bacteriological warfare. They in the Pentagon surely know that there are no chemical weapons in Nicaragua. The spread of this falsehood remains on the conscience of high Pentagon officials.

CHILEAN 'GENOCIDE,' U.S. ROLE CRITICIZED

LD231412 Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] New York February 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Andrey Sidorin reports:

While hypocritically taling of commitment to the "defence of human rights", the USA supports the most reactionary regimes, such as the fascist Pinochet junta in Chile. This hyprocritical stand of Washington was exposed at a press conference here by American public and religious figures, who have recently visited Chile.

What is now happening in the long suffering Chilean land can be described only as genocide, said Laura Safer, a New York lawyer and member of the National Lawyers' Guild. The Pinochet regime has clamped down a state of siege on the country in order to undermine through crude force the movement for the overthrow of the hateful dictatorship, which is gaining in scope in that country. Any Chilean can be summarily arrested, tortured and made short shrift of any time.

More than 15 thousand persons have been detained and interrogated since last November, thousands have been imprisoned and hundreds -- reported missing after they got into the cells of secret police jails. The inhabitants of the country are deprived of the freedom of speech, press and personal immunity, L. Safer pointed out. Despite this, financial aid is being lavishly granted to the bloody dictatorship by the USA. The American dollars are spent on strengthening the regime's military and repressive machinery.

At the same time the USA refuses to support the U.N. resolutions condemning the violation of human rights in Chile, J. Jagardo, a representative of the committee for solidarity with the people of Chile, pointed out. But when representatives of Washington are asked why they do not take any measures to influence the Pincohet junta they claim that they are "unable to change anything". These pharisaical assurances ring particularly outrageous when one recalls what tempestous activities were started by the U.S. Administration in clamping down an economic blockade on the Allende government with the aim of destabilizing it, and that the fascist Pinochet regime was brought to power as a result of a bloody coup staged with the direct participation of the United States secret services.

According to priest D. O'Mara, who has been recently expelled from Chile for rendering medical aid to the victims of monstrous tortures in the jails of the dictatorship, the policy of "quiet assistance" to the Pinochet junta has the same roots as Washington's policy of "constructive cooperation" with the racist Republic of South Africa. He urged organizations in the USA to start a large-scale campaign in protest against this stand of the administration, to demand that Congress take measures to put an end to every American assistance to the butchers of the Chilean people, for broadening solidarity with its struggle.

CHILEAN WORKERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING TO BE HELD

PY222000 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2130 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] The general unions assembly of the Sole Central Organization of Chilean Workers [CUTCh] delegates will be held in Paris on the 22d and 23d, in other words, tomorrow and the day after. The assembly will be held at all levels and it is in honor to the 32d anniversary of the highest ranking organization of the Chilean workers.

In a bulletin published today, the French section of the CUTCh refers to the profound economic crisis created by the military dictatorship, with most of the burden of this crisis falling on the shoulders of the workers.

It refers to the struggles against the fascist regime, expressing that thousands of combatants gain experience through the self-indoctrination of the masses, which use barricades, Molotov cocktails, throw rocks and tire bursters, and cut off electricity to defend the shantytowns. They demonstrate dedicated popular action to fight fascism without quarter.

The bulletin states that the exiles must make every effort to incorporate all those in exile, and every exile must be aware of the role that he must play; he should not just be content awaiting the events that could take place in Chile.

It also lauds the strengthening of the National Workers Command, which has become the center for the meeting of leaders and union organizations and which has the power to call events that are very important for the national way of life.

The bulletin then asks about the common aspirations of the Chilean working class. It sayd that the people want: in the first place, the ouster of the dictatorship; the structuring of a democratic government; a broadening of freedom and union rights; the abrogation, or a substantial modification, of the antiunion labor legislation; social justice; peace; progress; full employment; dignified salaries; health; housing; a guaranteed education for everyone; the defense of our basic wealth; international solidarity; friendship and cooperation with other workers and their organizations throughout the world; an end to the exploitation of our country's dependency on imperialism; workers' participation in social decisions; and a social and economic policy.

On this basis, with these demands and others contributed by the workers, no worker can be in disagreement. This is the program contained in the 21-point platform of the National Workers Command.

The report of the French section of the CUTCh concludes by expressing that the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front was founded in 1984 in Chile. We cannot conclude without saying something about this front.

Its short, but courageous life span has obtained the admiration and affection of the people. Those of us from here wish to express our admiration and respect for it. Its members, with a revolutionary conscience, represent, as do many other opposition sectors, the hopeful struggle of our suffering and courageous people.

Pinochet, on the contrary, is close to defeat. Imperialism and the verticalism of the power he determinedly wields still support him, something that is still accepted by the Armed Forces, which still have not revolted.

As things stand, the return of democracy to Chile is unavoidable and the sooner it is achieved, the less the people will suffer.

AFP: SOURCE SAYS CHERNENKO VOTES AT HOSPITAL

AU261028 Paris AFP in English 1026 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Moscow, Feb 26 (AFP) -- The 80-second television sequence showing Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko voting on Sunday, said to have been at a polling station, was taken at Moscow's Kuntsevo Hospital, a reliable source said today.

The source, quoting witnesses, said a TV team arrived on Sunday morning at the vast Kuntsevo Hospital complex, which is reserved for leading Soviet figures in the Moscow suburbs.

Mr Chernenko, aged 73, is believed to suffer from emphysema, a lung ailment assumed to be irreversible. He appeared very weak during the TV sequences, in which he was seen putting his voting papers in a ballot box. But the brief TV report said the film had been shot in an ordinary voting bureau in Moscow, presumably to indicate that Mr Chernenko was leading a normal life despite his long absence. The sequence showed a plain room with a desk and chair, and the camera lingered on an election poster and a voting register. But a number of details -- including a carpet and pink walls -- led specialists to conclude that the film was not taken in a public polling place.

Soviet law gives ill people the right to vote in hospital or at home, with the ballot box taken to them by an electoral commission assessor.

The Kuntsevo Hospital, guarded by the military and out of bounds to foreigners as to ordinary Soviet citizens, comes under the "4th department" of the Health Ministry, the services of which are reserved for Soviet leaders. It is headed by Dr. Yevgeniy Shazov, deputy minister and former personal physician to the late president Leonid Brezhnev.

AFP: USSR SPOKESMAN SAYS CHERNENKO VOTES AT HOME

NC241009 Paris AFP in English 1005 GMT 24 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Moscow, Feb 24 (AFP) -- Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko, whose illness was confirmed Friday, "voted at home" in today's elections to the Supreme Soviet, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The spokesman said the urn had been taken to the president's home for him to cast his vote.

No explanation was given, but his absence was clearly due to illness. Mr Chernenko has not been seen in public since December 27. Russians were officially told of Mr. Chernenko's illness for the first time on Friday night, in an unprecedented Kremlin announcement stating that doctors had advised the president not to attend the traditional election rally.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON ELECTION DAY UNITY

PM251553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Unity and Cohesion"]

[Text] Yesterday the streets and squares of our cities and villages were decked with red calico. This is how, according to established good tradition, we mark the day of elections to organs of Soviet people's power.

Soviet people went in an elated, festive mood to fulfill their civic duty and participate in the voting for candidates of the unbreakable bloc of Communist and nonparty people.

"The elections to the organs of Soviet power are a direct, graphic expression of the people's political will," Comrade K.U. Chernenko pointed out in his speech to the voters.

The results of the elections to the union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and local soviets are still being summed up, but it is already possible today to speak of their chief political result. The elections provided graphic new evidence of the unbreakable unity of the party and people and of the Soviet people's cohesion around the CPSU -- the leading force of our society. Working people of the Land of the Soviets warmly approve and unanimously support the domestic and foreign policy of the Communist Party, for which service to the people is the highest meaning of all activity.

The Leninist party's multifaceted work in fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums is aimed at making our homeland still stronger and more beautiful, making the life of every Soviet person better and richer, and ensuring world peace -- lasting, stable peace. The party elaborates the political line of our progress, invariably measuring it against the very rich experience of the working class and the entire people, and ensures the cohesion of socialist society, the strength of the Soviet multinational state, and purposefulness in the work of state and public organizations. All this makes the Communist Party the genuine guarantor of socialist progress.

The distinctive nature of the present political moment has put a special complexion on these elections and the election campaign which preceded them. Active preparations are being developed throughout the country for the 27th CPSU Congress -- a congress intended to play a special role in the history of our party, the destiny of our society, and the realization of the strategic course of comprehensively improving the socialism which we have built.

This strategy will undoubtedly be reflected in the new edition of the CPSU program now being drawn up, which will open up new horizons of historic creativity before the Soviet people. Sharp increases must be achieved in the level of labor productivity and in the people's material well-being, with an all-around flowering of spiritual culture, and our practice must fully embody the socialist system's intrinsic social justice with its fundamental principle "from each according to his abilities, to each according to his labor." These tasks of historic significance must be resolved right now, in close interconnection with the urgent problems of our economic and social development.

The Soviet elections have taken place in the concluding year of the 11th 5-Year Plan. This means that we must ensure the consolidation and augmentation of the positive progress made over the past 2 years in practically all sectors of the Soviet economy and more decisively implement urgent qualitative changes in economic work. Great, dogged, enterprising work will be needed at every work place to successfully fulfill the 1985 targets and create good groundwork for the next 5-year plan.

Our primary concern -- both today and tomorrow -- is the utmost raising of labor productivity. The organizational, technical, and moral-psychological problems connected with the further implementation of our principled policy of intensifying the economy must be resolved more confidently and systematically. The party directs Communists and all working people toward further work on strengthening discipline and organization in all sectors of our national economy and toward vigorous measures to save raw materials and fuel. Great tasks face party organizations, soviets, and economic organs in the matter of enhancing the people's well-being, improving the quality of goods and services, improving health care, and realizing the school reform.

Those who went to the polling stations yesterday included white-haired veterans of the Great Patriotic War, decorated with the motherland's awards. This is the year of the 40th anniversary of the victory. Our people's power considers it its lofty duty to show concern for those who held out in the brutal clash with the enemies of the socialist homeland. Their feat will shine unfading down the centuries. Casting their votes for peace and happiness alongside the veterans were those who were fulfilling their civic duty for the first time -- young workers and kolkhoz members, students, and pupils of vocational and technical schools. For them election day was festive in a special way, and they will remember it all their life. The unity and the indissoluble link between the generations of the Land of the Soviets is a political reality of our time and a great advantage of the socialist system.

These elections have convincingly shown the growing social and political activeness of our motherland's citizens. To ensure the direct participation of every working person in the management of the affairs of the state and society -- this is the lofty aim for which all components of our democratic system are "working." Socialism realizes its advantages through democracy, and the guarantee of its further development and deepening is the increase in the leading role of the Communist Party, which is doing everything to realize the tremendous potential of the people's socialist self-management. It shows constant concern for extending the powers of the soviets at all levels and for the consistent implementation in their work of the Leninist principle of unity of legislation, management, and control, and tirelessly conducts an extensive search for new and still more efficient means of realizing people's power.

The elections to union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and local soviets have convincingly demonstrated the Soviet people's united will -- to successfully implement the plans outlined by the party and further strengthen our motherland's economic and defense might through dogged, persistent labor.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON ELECTION DAY VOTING

PM251154 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "In the Name of the Flowering of the Homeland"]

[Text] Today is a great and joyous festival for us -- the day of elections to union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and local soviets. Soviet people are going to the polling stations to cast their votes for the people's candidates, the best representatives of the working class, kolkhoz peasantry, and intelligentsia.

The preparations for the elections were an exacting review of all our work. The election campaign was conducted everywhere at a high ideological-political and organizational level, under the sign of active preparations for the coming 27th CPSU Congress and the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War. It has drawn the working people of our society still closer together, rallied them, and demonstrated the monolithic unity of the party and the people.

"Elections to the soviets are always a solemn event in the life of our country," Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, pointed out in his speech to voters. "This is indeed a celebration -- a celebration of socialist democracy, democracy which really ensures in practice the broad, interested participation of millions of working people in the management of the state.

"The election campaign has vividly shown the growing awareness and the labor and social activeness of the masses. And this, as Lenin repeatedly emphasized, is the inexhaustible source of our system's strength."

This detailed program speech makes an in-depth analysis of central problems of the present day, the country's internal life, and the international situation. The task has been set of making decisive progress in the further intensification of social production, significantly accelerating scientific and technical progress, and ensuring the further raising of labor productivity. The ways to revolve it have also been defined. They involve, above all, managing better, making more economical use of everything at our disposal, strengthening organization and discipline, and achieving greater work results.

Reports coming in from all directions attest to the great response and lively comments elicited by Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech both inside and outside our country. Workers, kolkhoz members, the intelligentsia, Communist and nonparty people, veterans and young people warmly approve its propositions and conclusions and support the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy and its practical activity. The confident step of the Land of the Soviets convincingly demonstrates to the whole world the inexhaustible vital strength and advantages of the socialist social system.

The 5 years separating us from the previous elections are not such a long period for history, but for Soviet people time is compressed in great deeds. The Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline was constructed in record time, the "golden link" of the Baykal-Amur Main Railroad was laid, and operational through train traffic was inaugurated along its entire length. The country's economy as a whole began to develop more dynamically. Almost the entire increase in national income was secured as a result of higher labor productivity. There were more consumer goods. Much was done to fulfill the food program.

The social program is being implemented consistently. Real per capita incomes have increased. Unremitting attention is devoted to strengthening Soviet people's health and the party understands this task broadly. It embraces the creation of proper working conditions, environmental protection, the development of a truly mass physical culture movement, and the improvement of medical services for the population. Housing construction is being carried out on a huge scale. Last year alone 2 million new well appointed apartments were constructed, and during the first 4 years of the 5-year plan housing conditions were improved for 40 million people. This is how the constitutional right to housing is actualized among us.

There have been positive changes in the activities of soviets at all levels since the CPSU Central Committee April (1984) Plenum. The work of sessions and standing commissions has become more active, monitoring of accountable organs has been stepped up, ties with the population are consistently being strengthened, and work on realizing the voters' mandates is becoming more diverse. The soviets have begun displaying greater initiative and efficiency and are increasing their efforts in resolving questions of economic and sociocultural building and of satisfying the population's needs and aspirations.

In casting their votes for candidates of the unbreakable bloc of Communists and nonparty people, Soviet people vote for peace throughout the world. The skies over our country have now been kept clear for 4 decades. The tremendous, unremitting efforts of the party and state are aimed at cardinally improving the political climate on the planet, achieving a breakthough for the better in international affairs, ending the arms race imposed by imperialism, and removing the threat of a world nuclear war.

We are ready to cooperate honestly and constructively with all who really want the further development of world affairs not to proceed up new steps of nuclear competition, but to take the path of strengthening peace and security, detente, and trust.

Fulfilling their civic duty, Soviet people experience with special force the feeling of being the sole masters of their country and are conscious of their great socioeconomic, political, and personal rights granted them by the USSR Constitution. In freely expressing our will and electing soviet deputies, we vote for our own Soviet power, for the happiness of every family, and for the further flowering of the socialist homeland. Everyone to the elections! For a new victory of the bloc of Communists and nonparty people!

TIKHONOV 21 FEB ELECTION SPEECH REPORTED

PM221224 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 First Edition pp 1,2

[TASS repo t on 21 February Moscow meeting between N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and voters of Moscow's Frunzenskiy Electoral Okrug: "Triumph of Soviet Democracy"]

[Text] The mighty strength of our society lies in the unbreakable unity of the party and people. This great gain is the key to successes in all spheres of the national economy. Muscovites are making a weighty contribution to the socialist fatherland's achievements. Under the leadership of the city party organization they have taken a new and major step in economic and cultural building since the last elections. The capital's working people fulfilled ahead of schedule the plans and socialist pledges for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan.

The current election campaign is taking place in an atmosphere of lofty political and labor upsurge by Soviet people, who are persistently implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent party Central Committee plenums and are preparing to fittingly welcome the 40th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War and the scheduled party congress.

This was noted 21 February at a Moscow meeting, held in the USSR Bolshoy Theater, of working people from the capital's Frunzenskiy Electoral Okrug with RSFSR Supreme Soviet candidate deputy Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The meeting presidium consisted of Comrades G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, V.V. Grishin, and N.A. Tikhonov; I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations; famous working people; and workers in science and culture.

The meeting was opened by B.A. Gryaznov, first secretary of the Frunzenskiy CPSU Raykom. He emphasized that Frunzenskiy Rayon and all working Moscow are greeting the elections with new successes. The rayon's industry fulfilled ahead of schedule its targets for the 4 years and its 1984 plan for output volume. The program for the rayon's socioeconomic development is being successfully implemented. There has been comprehensive support for the patriotic movement for further growth of labor productivity, reduced prime costs of output, savings of energy and raw and other materials, and better utilization of equipment.

The participants in the meeting elected with great enthusiasm an honorary presidium consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade K.U. Chernenko.

The candidate deputy's agent, T.H. Sukhova, assembly worker at the No 2 Clock and Watch Plant Production Association and winner of the USSR State Prize, spoke of N.A. Tikhonov's life and his state, party, and public work. She urged the Frunzenskiy Okrug voters to unanimously cast their votes on election day for the candidates of the unbreakable bloc of Communists and nonparty people.

The Soviet people have achieved all their successes thanks to the wise leadership of the Communist Party. This was stressed in the speeches by V.M. Kurguzov, chief of the Central Telegraph Office; Yelena Miroshicheva, student at the Motor Vehicle and Highways Institute; and Doctor of Physical and Mathematical Sciences B.I. Rozhdestvenskiy, senior scientific staffer at the USSR Academy and Sciences M.V. Keldysh Institute of Applied Mathematics. They noted that Muscovites, like all Soviet people, address to our party, its Central Committee, and the Soviet Government heartfelt words of thanks for their constant concern for the present and the future and for the happiness of future generations.

We know well, the speakers said, how much concern Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko displays for the development of our motherland's capital and how much attention he gives to the initiatives by the city's labor collectives.

It was emphasized in the speeches that the preparations for the elections have demonstrated with renewed strength the triumph of socialist democracy. The Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and the Komsomol Central Committee awarded to Moscow for successes achieved in 1984 is helping to spread socialist competition even more widely and to improve the efficiency and quality of work to fulfill the 5-year plan plans and pledges. The acceleration of the intensification of production has become the key trend in work. Under the conditions of an international situation which has deteriorated through the fault of imperialist circles, Muscovites deem it their patriotic duty to unconditionally fulfill plan targets and engage in selfless and highly productive labor.

Those assembled warmly welcomed N.A. Tikhonov, who delivered a speech.

Comrade N.A. Tikhonov's Speech

I would like to assure you, dear comrades, the candidate deputy said, that I will apply all my efforts to justify the great honor done to me. There is no loftier duty for a Communist than to live for the people's interests, no greater honor than to struggle for the working people's happiness!

The great party of Communists organizes, guides, and inspires Soviet people's creative and truly titantic labor. Multifaceted organizational, political, and theoretical work is being done by the party's combat staff -- the Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, outstanding leader of the Leninist type. Konstantin Ustinovich devotes all his talent and his vast experience and knowledge to strengthening the motherland's might, increasing Soviet people's prosperity, and preserving and strengthening peace. He displays in the solution of any question his inherent realistic and constructive approach and innovation, combining in his work lofty Bolshevik exactingness with a sensitive attitude toward people.

Lofty recognition of the prestige and enormous respect which Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko enjoys in the party and among the people was provided by the fact that he was unanimously nominated everywhere as the first candidate deputy to all union republic supreme soviets.

I want to convey to you, and through you to all Muscovites, best wishes from Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. I think, comrades, that you will support me in conveying to our dear Konstantin Ustinovich, on behalf of the participants in our meeting and all Frunzenskiy Rayon voters, wishes for great successes in his tireless work for the benefit of our motherland, the benefit of all Soviet people!

The party is loyally serving the people's interests and is unwaveringly guiding the people along Lenin's course! The Soviet people respond to the party with total trust and unanimous support for its domestic and foreign policy! This is how it was when we were laying the foundations of socialism and defending its gains; this is how things are today, too! And this provides the foundation of our firm and unwavering confidence that everything planned by the Communist Party will be implemented!

The years since the previous RSFSR Supreme Soviet elections have been a period of active work by the party and the people to fulfill the decisions of the 26th congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and the 11th 5-Year Plan. What can be said about the results of this work?

On the whole, we can be satisfied with the results. Our country's steps are firmer and its strides broader and more confident. National income has been growing at a steady pace, providing the basis for a constant rise in Soviet people's living standards. New heights have been scaled by the culture, science and arts of all peoples in our motherland.

It is important to note that almost the entire growth of national income has resulted from higher labor productivity, whose growth rates last year were the highest of all preceding years. End results have grown faster than expenditure.

The average annual growth of industrial output in 1983-1984 exceeded R30 billion; in other words, it increased 1.4 times compared with the first 2 years of the 5-year plan. Changes are occurring in the structure of industrial output in favor of the electronic industry, nuclear machine building, space and laser technology, high-quality metallurgy, the chemical and petrochemical industry, and agricultural machine building, in other words the sectors which determine scientific and technical progress. High and steady growth in producing advanced types of equipment has been ensured.

The fuel and energy base of the national economy is strengthening. The proportion of natural gas and nuclear power in the energy blance is growing, as envisaged by the energy program. Now our country produces more natural gas than any other country in the world.

The economy and culture of the Russian Federation and all union republics are developing dynamically within the framework of the unified national economic complex. The course of building up economic potential in the country's eastern regions is being consistently implemented. Practically all the growth of gas and petroleum extraction and production of some types of nonferrous metals are being ensured by regions situated east of the Urals.

The commissioning of fixed production capital has been speeded up. In the last few years it has outstripped the growth of capital investments for the first time, and the result is that the volume of incomplete construction work has been reduced.

More than 800 new industrial enterprises have been commissioned since the start of the 5-year plan. The opening of the entire length of the Baykal-Amur Railroad to operational train traffic a year ahead of schedule was an important event.

Powerful transcontinental gas pipelines, unequaled in the world, have been constructed. In the first 4 years of the current 5-year plan alone we have constructed about 36,000 km of long-distance gas pipelines. Such a scale and pace are unknown to world practice! This has made it possible to improve considerably gas supplies to the country's central and western regions and to the country's central and western regions and to make greater use of natural gas in production and everyday life. Thanks to the extensive use of gas fuel, many of the country's industrial centers are now cleaner and enjoy better amenities, and Moscow has the cleanest atmosphere of all the capitals of the world's industrially developed countries!

The food program is being successfully implemented. Increasingly large quantities of modern equipment and mineral fertilizers are being supplied to rural areas. Much has been done to create favorable economic conditions for work by kolkhozes and sovkhozes and the entire agro-industrial complex and to improve the life and everyday existence of rural working people. In 1983-84 gross output from agro-industrial complex sectors increased by R57 billion in comparison with the 2 previous years. Steady growth has been achieved in the production of meat, milk, and other products, and the per capita consumption of vegetables, fruit, fish, and other foodstuffs has increased.

The candidate deputy emphasized that the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee October (1984) Plenum usher in a major new stage in the struggle to fulfill the food program and to improve land fertility. Within a short time it is planned to increase the area of irrigated and drained land by 50 percent and to guarantee obtaining almost half the total arable farming output on that land. What do these results show? They show that the party and people are consistently, step by step, traveling the correct course -- the course of intensification of the economy and on this basis of increasing Soviet people's well-being. And this course is producing fruitful results!

What lies behind all the achievements in industry, other sectors, science, and culture is the selfless, heroic labor of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the intelligentsia -- the entire Soviet people! What also lies behind this is the all-around measures that the party and government are implementing to improve the standard of economic management and strengthen discipline and organization in all sections. What is very important is that these measures are reliably bolstered by the profound patriotism of millions of Soviet people, by their labor enthusiasm, and by their great responsibility for the country's future and the fate of peace! The party's cause is the cause of the whole people, and this is the source of our achievements and new victories!

The working people of Frunzenskiy Rayon have come to the elections with good labor successes. They are marching in the vanguard of competition to successfully fulfill the 5-year plan targets and fittingly greet the 27th party congress. Naming the rayon's innovators and leading production workers, N.A. Tikhonov noted that they are people of lofty civic duty, great diligence, and wonderful spiritual qualities. It is such people who personify the man of our socialist formation and are the pride of Moscow and the whole people! Many thanks to them for their valiant labor for the good of our beloved motherland! Honor and glory to them!

The party and people have done a great deal in recent years. We have something to be proud of. However, there must be no complacency. Through common efforts, it is necessary not only to consolidate but to augment the positive shifts in the economy, and therefore also in the improvement of our working people's living standards. It is precisely this that the party and the Central Committee are calling on Soviet people to do. The prime task is to fulfill the 1985 plan, successfully complete the 5-year plan, and create a good, firm base for the new 5-year plan. We are sure, the candidate deputy declared, that Muscovites, the capital's glorious working class, and its intelligentsia will set an example in this! This would be working Moscow's best possible gift to the congress of the beloved party!

In outlining tasks for the future, the party orients Communists and all working people toward resolving the key problems of Soviet society's development. The entire complex of problems of improving developed socialism will be examined at the 27th party congress, which will discuss and adopt the new edition of the CPSU program, will make the necessary changes to the party rules, and will approve the basic guidelines for the country's economic and social development in the 12th 5-Year Plan and the period through the year 2000.

A most important role in the process of improving developed socialism belongs to the economy. It has been and remains, in Lenin's words, our "main policy." The central task here is to achieve the highest world level of labor productivity. We are still lagging behind certain highly developed capitalist countries in terms of labor productivity, and although it is growing in our country at a faster rate than it is in the West, we are aware that capitalism too will not mark time. Possession of the heights of world science and technology has become a most important section of the competition between the two systems.

Do we have everything necessary in order to lead the national economy to the most advanced scientific and technical horizons and achieve the highest labor productivity? Yes, we do! There is the mighty scientific and production potential, the tremendous resources, the skilled cadres, the advantages of our social system, socialism, and above all the wonderful Soviet working class and an intelligentsia dedicated to our common cause.

We must make fuller use of our advantages and combine in practice the fruits of the two revolutions -- the social and the scientific and technical -- which will be a decisive condition of the complete implementation of the socialist ideal and of the highest possible upsurge of the people's well-being. This will also be the best possible advertisement [agitatsiya] for socialism and mankind's communist future! The attainment of the highest labor productivity is a great and complex task, a task of historic importance. The close alliance of science and production, and efficient, creative, highly organized labor are the key to resolving that task.

Recently, the CPSU Central Committee and the government have adopted a number of resolutions on leading directions of scientific and technical progress, on the development of machine building, electronics, and production automation. Their point is primarily to effect a qualitative transformation of labor itself via the creation of the technical base for cardinally improving productivity.

The implementation of the statewide program for the creation, the development of the production, and the efficient utilization of computer equipment and automated systems in the period through the year 2000 that was recently approved by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo will be of particular importance. In the very near future microprocessors and microcomputers will be widely employed in production, planning and design organizations, scientific research, the education process, management, and daily life.

In the next 5-year plan it is planned to widely introduce automated production and design systems in the national economy. This will make it possible to substantially increase labor productivity, conduct all industrial processes under optimum conditions, save and make easier the labor of many millions of people, and substantially reduce unit expenditure of raw and other materials and energy resources.

The introduction everywhere of automated systems and various facilities for remote control and monitoring and operational data processing is transforming the whole face of industrial labor. The production facilities with which the country will enter the 21st century are coming into being before our very eyes.

A high degree of technical culture and, I would say, universal "electronic literacy" will certainly be required. This is natural: A specialist who does not possess the skills of working with computers may soon find himself in a similar position to a person who does not know the multiplication tables or how to read and write.

The creation and introduction of advanced equipment and technology and the improvement of output quality must be the focus of attention for every labor collective. I am sure that Muscovites, including you comrades from Frunzenskiy Rayon, will make a worthy contribution to assimilating new generations of computers, robots, and automated production systems.

Another important direction of our work has been and remains the efficient utilization of all material, manpower, and financial resources and production capital and the acceleration of the commissioning and startup of new capacities. We still have great reserves here. Vladimir Ilich Lenin said that "the proletarian state must be a cautious, thrifty, skillful 'master....'" This thought of Lenin's is particularly topical today. In this connection it is hard to overestimate the patriotic initiative of leading collectives -- working 2 days this year using saved materials, raw materials, and fuel. On the scale of our economy this would mean a saving of 2.7 million metric tons of oil, 2.8 billion cubic meters of gas, 7.6 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, 570,000 metric tons of rolled metal, and 680,000 metric tons of cement. That is what this important initiative for the national economy gives us. That is something to struggle for! Savings in everything and everywhere are not measured only in rubles, they are also of political and moral significance. Thrift is an inalienable feature of lofty civic-mindedness and of a conscientious, truly communist attitude toward labor.

The problems facing us are large-scale and complex, and in order to resolve them it is necessary to substantially improve the standard of management of all elements of our economy -- from primary labor collectives to sectors and regions. The party and government are carrying out much work to improve the economic mechanism and raise management as a whole to a qualitatively new level.

Last year, as is well known, the implementation of a large-scale economic experiment began in the national economy. The results of the work of the associations and enterprises of all the ministries taking part in the experiment stand out favorably even against the background of the general acceleration in the economy and improvement of qualitative indicators in the national economy as a whole. All the ministries operating under the new system overfulfilled the year's targets for the volume of output sales, labor productivity growth, and the production of output in the top quality category. Moreover, the entire increase in production was achieved without an increase, and in a number of cases with a reduction, in the number of people employed. The labor collectives themselves also received a substantial gain: Their economic incentive funds increased, often by 25 percent or even more, and opportunities emerged for better satisfying needs for housing and children's establishments.

This year large numbers of additional production associations and enterprises and 5 million workers and employees have switched to work under the new conditions. They account for 1 in every 9 rubles of the country's industrial output. We will continue to pursue the line of expanding the independence as well as increasing the responsibility of labor collectives and of utilizing the most rational and efficient forms and methods of management and administration.

The creation of increasingly favorable conditions for the harmonious development of every Soviet person and the flowering of his creative abilities and gifts has been, remains, and will continue to be the main meaning of the activity of the party and state.

It is to this, in the final analysis, that all the multifaceted work to boost the national economy and increase its efficiency is subordinated, and the more successfully we make progress in this matter, the more tangible will be the positive changes in the Soviet people's conditions, standards, and way of life.

In the period since the previous elections the extensive social program worked out by the 26th party congress has been implemented. In terms of many social development indicators the country is reaching the level of the 5-year plan targets and in terms of payments and benefits from social consumption funds and housing construction they will be exceeded. We build more apartments, schools, hospitals, medical centers, and children's preschool institutions than anyone in the world. During this 5-year plan 554 million square meters of housing -- 24 million more than outlined in the plan -- will have been commissioned. In other words, it will be as if we have built an additional city of almost 2 million! Such a scale of housing construction has not been seen in any previous 5-year plan, and many of the apartment blocks are being built to new standard designs with improved apartment layout.

Speaking of consumer goods production, N.A. Tikhonov particularly stressed that to produce high-quality goods while using the same resources is the main way of meeting the population's demand. It is also very important to seriously step up the attention paid to the development of the sphere of paid services, including cooperative housing construction, the repair and outfitting of apartments according to clients' wishes, and the organization of leisure. There must be a full supply of goods for purchase with the honestly earned ruble. This is a most important material incentive for boosting labor activeness, increasing labor productivity, and really improving the people's lives.

We can make progress in any sphere of our work and social life only when we rely on profound knowledge and high conscientiousness and culture on the part of all working people. A great role is played here, as the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum pointed out, by the schools, higher and secondary specialized educational establishments, vocational and technical colleges, families, club institutions, literature and art, the press, radio, television, and all the means of ideological education work. As the economy is intensified and the services sphere developed, Soviet people will have more free time. This raises still higher the role of the creative intelligentsia in propagandizing communist ideals and our spiritual values and resolving the problems of improving developed socialism and the Soviet person who is building it himself.

The candidate deputy then dwelt on international questions. The main one -- the question of questions, one might say -- is the task of preserving peace and removing the threat of a nuclear missile war. That is why the party and government persistently seek ways of resolving this task. It is these goals that are served by important USSR initiatives such as the adoption of the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and our proposals on establishing norms of relations between the nuclear powers, mutually renouncing the use of military force, freezing nuclear arsenals and reducing them, and preventing the militarization of space. It is hard to cite any important international problem on which the USSR has not come out with specific, just, and realistic proposals. The Soviet Union does not need the arms race; it is alien to the very nature of socialism, whose ideal is peace. We are the most consistent advocates of resolutely curbing the arms race, which has become an immense threat to peace and a heavy burden for the entire world economy. We favor general and complete disarmament. This would make it possible to channel gigantic funds into the resolution of general human problems, into eliminating the hunger and poverty of hundreds of millions of people in the nonsocialist part of the world, developing production forces, education, and health care, conserving nature, and other good deeds.

However, we are not utopians. While a military threat exists in the world, we have to cherish the security of our country and its allies and friends like the apple of our eye.

The Soviet Union will never allow anyone to achieve military superiority over it. At the same time we are always ready to seek solutions of international problems by peaceful means, through talks. Our chief demand here is for strict observance of the principle of equality and identical security.

The party and government will continue to do everything necessary to defend our people's peaceful creative labor and strengthen the country's defense capability. Our glorious Armed Forces have and always will have everything necessary to defend the motherland. Soviet people need have no doubts on that score!

The socialist community and its mighty economic and defense potential are the main barriers in the way of imperialism's aggressive aspirations. The cause of preserving peace is faithfully served by the Warsaw Pact organization, whose 30th anniversary we will be celebrating immediately after the victory holiday.

The lessons of history show that it is necessary to struggle against war before it begins, and this is particularly urgent now that the international situation has been seriously complicated through the fault of imperialism.

The United States has launched an unprecedented arms race on earth, at sea, and in the air, and now intends to start one in space too. The militarization of space is a most dangerous adventure. If it is not reliably blocked, everything that it has been possible to achieve so far in the sphere of strategic arms limitation will be nullified and the world will be on the brink of nuclear catastrophe. Conversely, the nonmilitarization of space will make nuclear disarmament -- which all people on earth are waiting for -- substantially easier.

Our position is realistic and fully accords with the interests of peace. This is the position we are taking into the new talks with the United States on the whole complex of questions of nuclear and space arms, which are soon to start in Geneva. We are ready for the most radical solutions. The ball is in the U.S. court. We are profoundly convinced that detente will be reborn, that there is no sensible alternative to it. We are optimists and profoundly believe in the triumph of reason and that the policy of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems will be the fundamental basis for relations between them. This policy alone can ensure mankind's salvation from the nuclear threat; it alone can guarantee lasting peace and mankind's paramount right -- the right to life!

In conclusion, N.A. Tikhonov stressed that the spirit of Leninist principledness, realism, and innovation today imbues the entire atmosphere of preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress, fosters the labor enthusiasm of millions, and gives rise to creative initiative. The candidate deputy expressed heartfelt gratitude to the voters of Frunzenskiy Rayon for the trust shown in him and wished them glorious new achievements, prosperity, and happiness. (N.A. Tikhonov's speech was listened to with great attention and repeatedly accompanied by applause).

CORRECTION TO GROMYKO ELECTION ADDRESS

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Candidate Gromyko Addresses Kaliningrad Voters," published in the 20 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, PAGE R 3, last paragraph, line one:

...of the present situation is that military-strategic...(changing "proposal" to "situation"

GRAIN EXPERT ASSESSES STATE OF SEED STOCKS

PM221607 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 21 Feb 85 p 1

[Review by G. Zhinov, deputy chief of the USSR Varietal Seed Raising Production Association (Sortsemprom), under the rubric "Winter's Day for the Harvest": "What Kind of Seed Is in the Granaries?"]

[Text] High-quality seed of the best strains and hybrids are a very important means of intensifying farming. Therefore, in laying the foundations for the harvest in the concluding year of the 5-year plan, agricultural workers show special concern for the creation of reliable seed stocks. Agricultural and procurement organs, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, scientific establishments, and grain reception enterprises have done great work in providing the country's spring field with sowing material.

On the whole, there is sufficient grain and oil-yielding crop, corn, and perennial and annual grass seed. Questions of the release of seed from state resources have been resolved, and seed shipments to those regions where last year, owing to unfavorable weather conditions, farms did not lay in full stocks of their own sowing material are being completed. It is important that these stocks be used correctly, reach farms on schedule, and ensure the fulfillment of the sowing plan and the plan for increasing the production of arable crops. We need to speed up the shipment of seed from grain reception enterprises and bring them up to the highest sowing condition.

Great attention is devoted to the laying in and preparation of seed stocks in the Ukrainian SSR, the Belorussian SSR, the Georgian SSR, the Lithuanian SSR, the Moldavian SSR, the Latvian SSR, and the Armenian SSR, and also in Leningrad, Bryansk, Moscow, Belgorod, Kursk, Lipetsk, and Penza Oblasts and in Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays. According to state seed inspectorate figures, by 1 February 1985 practically all seeds of spring grain crops (together with the reserve stock) in those republics and oblasts had been raised to sowing condition, and this includes 83-99 percent of seed meeting first- and second-grade norms.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Azerbiajan SSR and the Estonian SSR and many farms in North Kazakhstan, Kaliningrad, Ryazan, Tula, Voronezh, Tambov, Ulyanovsk, and Volgograd Oblasts, the Dagestan, Kabardino-Balkar, Chechen-Ingush, Mari, and Chuvash autonomous republics, and Maritime Kray are completing seed cleaning and bringing seed up to high sowing condition.

But this is not how things stand everywhere. In the Uzbek SSR, for example, 63 percent of rice seed has not yet been cleaned. As a check has shown, many Karakalpak ASSR farms dispatched the entire rice harvest, including the seed stock, as grain procurements and will now be forced to obtain seed from state resources. A proportion of the high-grade rice seed has deteriorated in quality [obezlichena] and its reproductive makeup has been upset.

There are unjustified delays in work on cleaning, drying, and grading seed on Kirgiz SSR farms. There, of the 60,000 metric tons of grain crop seed tested at seed inspectorates 7,500 metric tons, or 12 percent, were substandard owing to dockage. In the Turkmen SSR 6 percent of the seed stock has not been raised to sowing condition in terms of this indicator, and yet sowing time is imminent there.

There is still a large quantity of substandard seed, owing to dockage, on farms in Kaluga, Yaroslavl, Perm, Novosibirsk, Kemerovo, and Tyumen Oblasts. Many farms in East Siberian oblasts are slow to prepare seed. As of 1 February, more than 36 percent of them were substandard there.

The unfavorable weather conditions under which the harvest was gathered in many oblasts left their mark on seed quality. A careful examination of seed balances has shown that, for the purposes of preserving the reproductive and varietal makeup on certain farms in eastern oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics, it will be necessary to sow with grain crop seed which shows certain deviations from the established norms in terms of germinating capacity but retains high viability. State seed inspectorate reports show that there are many such seeds on farms in the Urals Region and also on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in West and East Siberia. It is necessary to take stock of them everywhere, sort them well from small and sickly grain and weed impurities, and ensure reliable storage conditions. With the onset of warm weather it is important to carry out air or thermal warming of such seed in grain driers or active ventilation plants, and also to ensure that the seed is treated. Science and practice have established that in the majority of cases seed considerably improves its germinating capacity after thermal warming and chemical treatment and can be used for sowing.

In a number of oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics agricultural organs and kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders and specialists do not devote proper attention to the preparation of high-grade seed, and it is particularly needed where it is planned to use intensive technology to grow spring wheat this year.

The correct action is being taken where people take special stock of all the available seed of new zoned and promising strains and where they use them only for reproduction. Sensible distribution of elite and primary seed prepared by scientific research establishments and experimental teaching farms must be ensured, in order to secure planned strain renovation and accelerate the introduction of new, highly productive strains into production.

Seed is rightly called the gold fund of the harvest. Having mounted competition of kolkhoz, sovkhoz, and agricultural and procurement organs for a fitting greeting to the 27th CPSU Congress; leaders and specialists must do everything possible to ensure that spring sowing is carried out using high-equality varietal seed at the best times and to a high agrotechnical standard.

PRAVDA REPORTS STOCKRAISING PROBLEMS IN TURKMENIA

PM251144 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 First Edition p 1

[Own correspondent A. Grachev report: "Experience Will Help: "Livestock Raising Is the Shock Front"]

[Excerpts] Turkemen SSR -- What could be simpler than to blame the cold weather instead of a lack of organization and mismanagement? The weather can't answer back. This is obviously what Mari Oblast Agro-Industrial Association leaders had hoped to do when reporting to the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers Presidium a few days ago on the progress of livestock wintering, despite the fact that, rather than the weather, they had above all themselves to blame.

There are difficulties with wintering precisely because of their sluggishness. The productivity of livestock units has decreased and feeds are in short supply. Targets for the procurement of alfalfa hay, other coarse fees, and silage were not met in the oblast. Thousands of sheep have perished. Especially large numbers of sheep died in Kushkinskiy, Baram-Aliyskiy, Maryyskiy, Iolotanskiy, and Takhta-Bazarskiy Rayons. Many cattle and hogs were also lost.

Feed preparation facilities are standing idle, especially on farms in Sakar-Chaginskiy and Takhta-Bazarskiy Rayons.

At many of the oblast's dairy units the premises are cold, there is no glass in the windows, and the roofs are leaking. And here and there livestock is simply kept out in the open. The result: Milk production does not exceed 5 kg per cow per day, and the number of calves per 100 cows is also low.

There are difficulties with livestock wintering on most farms in Chardzhou, Tashauz, and Ashkhabad Oblasts, where feeds are also in short supply. Livestock raising has failed to make any headway in Turkmenia for many years now. In spring the public-sector livestock population increases considerably, but in the winter a proportion of the young animals perish through lack of feed. What is it that is stopping us from breaking out of this vicious circle? There is water and much land to be reclaimed, and there is enough machinery, fertilizers, and manpower.

True, the best land, 90 percent of the water, and most of the machinery and fertilizers are allocated to cotton, but livestock raising must not be ignored either, and pains must be taken to develop it.

LIVESTOCK CARE IN KASHKA-DARYA OBLAST CRITICIZED

GF251532 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1300 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Summary] The care given to livestock in the livestock breeding establishment of the Ninth Populist Sovkhoz in Kashka-Darya Oblast's Bakharistan Rayon does not comply with current demands. Squandering is also being allowed in the preparation of feed. Nothing is being done by Murgel Basadedov, who is the director of the establishment, and by Rifat Ilyasov, who is the director of the sovkhoz, to end this state of affairs.

In the event this situation is allowed to continue, the sovkhoz will not be able to fulfill the plan related to milk production.

SHORTCOMINGS IN AGRICULTURAL PREPARATIONS NOTED

LD251746 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 25 Feb 85

[From "News of the Agro-Industrial Complex" program presented by commentator Semen Astakhov]

[Excerpts] The cold weather is holding back the start of field work in the southern part of the country. At this time in the Kuban and the Crimea, there are usually the so-called February "windows" -- warm days when mechanizers can start sowing. This year, however, there have been no February "windows" and it is now only in the Central Asian republics that sowing work and top-dressing of winter crops are in progress. Today the first spring sowing news came from Azarbaijan, where they have started sowing feed crops. The farm workers are counting on growing three harvests a year to obtain the greatest possible yield from the irrigated lands.

The preparation of equipment for field work on the whole throughout the country is at the same level as last year. This work, however, is not organized efficiently everywhere. While on farms in the Ukraine, Belorussia, and the Soviet Baltic republics the repair and maintenance of sowing and soil cultivation equipment -- most tractors and other machinery -- has been completed, in Kazakhstan, Turkmenia, and certain oblasts in the RSFSR a large number of heavy-duty tractors like the K-700 and other equipment are still waiting for repair and maintenance. The cold weather and snow drifts are often given as the reason, but these are no problem for farms that prepared for them in advance.

SOKOLOV ISSUES ORDER FOR ARMY, NAVY DAY

PM251351 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Feb 85 Second Edition p 1

["USSR Defense Minister Order No 42" dated 23 February 1985]

[Text] Comrade soldiers and sailors, sergeants and petty officers! Comrade ensigns and warrant officers! Comrade officers, generals, and admirals! Comrade veterans of the Soviet Armed Forces! Today the Soviet people are festively celebrating the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. Created by V.I. Lenin and educated by the Communist Party, the USSR Armed Forces have traveled a glorious combat path. They defended October's revolutionary gains in the fierce battles of the civil war. In the grim years of the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet people and their Armed Forces upheld the freedom and independence of the socialist motherland, made a decisive contribution to the victory over Hitlerite Germany and militarist Japan and to the liberation of Europe's peoples from fascist slavery, and fulfilled their patriotic and international duty with honor.

This year, Soviet Army and Navy Day is being celebrated in an atmosphere of high political and labor activeness on the part of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, the people's intelligentsia, and USSR Armed Forces servicemen generated by the preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress and the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War. The socialist competition to successfully fulfill the targets for 1985 and the 5-year plan as a whole is broadening. Working people are channeling their efforts toward further boosting the economy, raising labor productivity, intensifying production, accelerating scientific and technical progress, and making economic and rational use of material resources. The people's living standards and culture are steadily rising.

The Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist community countries are consistently following a peace-loving foreign policy aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear war and ending the arms race. The situation in the world remains tense through the fault of aggressive U.S. imperialist forces and their NATO allies. Under these conditions, the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government are taking the necessary measures to strengthen the country's defense capability, enhance the Armed Forces' combat readiness, and educate Soviet people in a spirit of lofty vigilance.

Army and Navy servicemen, closely rallied around the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee and its Politburo headed by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, are tirelessly improving their combat skills and reliably guarding our motherland's sacred borders. In a single combat formation with servicemen from the Warsaw Pact member-states, they are worthily carrying out their duty in defending the gains of socialism.

Comrade Army and Navy servicemen, comrade veterans of the Armed Forces, I congratulate you on the holiday of the whole people, Soviet Army and Navy day! I wish all Armed Forces personnel further successes in combat and political training! To mark the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, I order: that festive fireworks be organized at 2100 on 23 February 1985 in our motherland's capital, the Hero-City of Moscow, the union republic capitals, the Hero-Cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Odessa, Sevastopol, Novorossiysk, Kerch, and Tula, the Hero-Fortress of Brest, and also in the cities of Kaliningrad, Lvov, Rostov-na-Donu, Kuybyshev, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Chita, Khabarovsk, Vladivostok, and Severomorsk.

Ong live the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy! Long live the heroic Soviet people and their valiant Armed Forces! Glory to the CPSU, inspirer and organizer of all our victories!

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR defense minister

MILITARY OFFICIALS COMMEMORATE ARMY, NAVY DAY

Akhromeyev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA

PM221235 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister: "On Guard Over Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] Tomorrow is Soviet Army and Navy Day. Our country is celebrating this nationwide festival in an atmosphere of inspired struggle for the implementation of the 26th CPSU Congress decisions, the successful completion of the 11th 5-Year Plan, and the further strengthening of our motherland's economic and defense might. A new upsurge of political and labor activeness is being caused by the preparations under way in the country for the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and for the 27th CPSU Congress.

The achievement of the aims set by the party and the strength of the Soviet state's positions in the world arena are connected with the state of the combat ability and combat readiness of our Armed Forces, which have now been worthily fulfilling their historic purpose for 67 years. They are the reliable guard of the socialist homeland and of socialism's gains, and the bulwark of international security and social progress.

Created by the party headed by V.I. Lenin, the Soviet Armed Forces -- a military organization of a new, socialist type -- have convincingly proved their historic advantages. Already during the years of the civil war and the foreign military intervention they honorably fulfilled the mission entrusted to them and upheld the Great October cause, under the party's leadership, by routing the hordes of internal counterrevolution and the troops of the foreign interventionists.

Socialism's historic advantages and its tremendous economic, sociopolitical, and spiritual potential were revealed very fully during the Soviet Union's Great Patriotic War against fascist Germany. Holding out before the fascist aggressor's sudden and perfidious attack and exhausting in dogged defensive battles the mobilized and deployed Hitlerite army and the armies of the reich's satellites, our Armed Forces under the Leninist Party's leadership thwarted Hitler's "biltzkrieg" plan. Then, taking the strategic initiative, they achieved a fundamental breakthrough in the war and, as a result, victoriously completed routing the enemy. While defending the freedom and independence of their socialist homeland, at the same time they also fulfilled with honor a lofty international mission -- the liberated the peoples of many countries from fascist enslavement.

In the brutal confrontation with fascism, Soviet servicemen displayed very lofty patriotism, heroism, courage, fortitude, and selfless devotion to the party and the people.

Having routed the German fascist hordes in Europe, the Soviet Armed Forces smashed the Kwangtung Army in 3 weeks time in the Manchurian strategic offensive operation, put militarist Japan in a hopeless position, and forced it to capitulate.

It is particularly important to emphasize all this once again today in connection with the approaching 40th anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory in the Great Patriotic War. On the threshold of this portentous historic date, imperialist propaganda is falsifying the events of the last war with increased activeness in an attempt to belittle the USSR's decisive contribution to the victory over fascism and to disparage the glorious combat path of the Soviet Armed Forces. Anti-Soviets, revanchists, and surviving fascists brazenly distort the historical truth.

They allege that the big losses of the Soviet Army, which, as is known, shouldered the brunt of the war against fascist Germany, were a result of its "inability to fight," the low standard of our military art, and the troops' poor technical equipment. All these are lies from start to finish.

The historical truth is that the Soviet Union was quite alone in its struggle against fascist Germany and its satellites for more than 3 years. Starting on 22 June 1941, the Soviet-German front was the chief front in World War II, and it remained so until 9 May 1945. The German fascist Army incurred more than 73 percent of its total combat losses against the Soviet Army. The Wehrmacht's manpower losses on the Soviet-German front were four times what they were in the West European and Mediterranean theaters of military operations put together. There, too, the Soviet Armed Forces destroyed the bulk of the enemy's military hardware and armaments.

During the war years our Armed Forces successfully carried out more than 50 strategic operations, approximately 250 front-line operations, and thousands of battles and engagements. Many of them were characterized by the originality of strategic, operational, and tactical designs. They were planned and carried out on the basis of profound foresight of the possible development of events. They were characterized by the creative realization of new, more efficient and diverse methods of preparing and conducting military operations. The majority of operations were distinguished by resolution and purposefulness. The skillful choice of the time and direction of the main strikes; the concentration of forces and their means; the use of large masses of tanks, artillery, and aircraft when breaking through enemy defenses with the subsequent encirclement and destruction of large enemy groupings; the creation and skillful use of strategic reserves; efficient cooperation on the tactical, operational, and strategic scales; the achievement of a high pace of attack and of continuous and flexible troop control in all components -- this was what really characterized Soviet military art.

The successes of the Soviet Armed Forces were underpinned by our country's military and economic might, which increased constantly during the armed struggle, and by the heroic labor exploit of the Soviet people in the rear, who provided the Army with everything necessary.

The historic victory the Soviet Union won in the Great Patriotic War was law-governed. It proved most convincingly the great vital strength and indestructibility of the world's first socialist state and its fundamental advantages over capitalism in the political, economic, ideological, and other spheres. The superiority of the Soviet Armed Forces was revealed fully. Defending the most progressive social system -- socialism -- and the socialist homeland, they taught a severe lesson to lovers of military adventures and aspirants to world supremacy, and graphically showed the doomed nature of their aggressive designs.

The postwar period has once again confirmed most convincingly that the defense of the socialist homeland and of socialism's gains is an objective necessity and the most important duty of the Communist Party and the Soviet people. After World War II the aggressive circles of imperialism, disregarding its lessons, began drawing up perfidious new plans against the USSR, at first covertly but then overtly. A new aspirant to world supremacy also appeared -- the United States, which embarked on active preparations to unleash nuclear war on the Soviet Union. According to the data of the U.S. Brookings Institute, the question of the use of nuclear weapons was raised 19 times in Washington between 1946 and 1975, and in 4 of these instances their use was planned directly against the USSR.

At the same time, the knocking together of aggressive military blocs began.

U.S. imperialism and its NATO allies enmeshed our country and the socialist community countries in a network of military bases, launched an extensive program to build up their nuclear potential and other types of weapons, and embarked on physical preparations for a new world war, which they are pursuing increasingly intensively.

Under these conditions our Communist Party and the Soviet state have been forced to display proper concern for strengthening the country's defense capability and maintaining the Armed Forces at an appropriate level.

The equipping of the Armed Forces with missiles and nuclear weapons, supersonic missile-carrying aircraft and missile-carrying nuclear submarines and the creation of the strategic missile forces all served to alter radically the complexion and considerably increase the combat might of the Army and Navy. The measures enabled the Soviet Union to achieve approximate military equilibrium with the United States by the early seventies and made the bellicose circles in the imperialist states recognize the USSR's might.

The military equilibrium, which the Soviet people worked hard to achieve under the leadership of the Communist Party, is our historic gain and decisive contribution to the struggle for peace.

But there are signs that this situation does not suit the U.S. ruling circles. Distorting the historical facts, they are trying to portray the Soviet Union to the world public as some kind of arms race instigator. By using the threadbare "Soviet threat" as a cover for their plans, which endanger mankind, they endeavor to smash the existing military equilibrium, achieve military superiority over the USSR and its allies, and dictate their will by force of arms.

At the present time, the United States is creating new strategic nuclear weapons systems at an ever-increasing rate. Bringing all manner of pressure to bear on its NATO partners, the United States is pushing ahead with the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in the NATO bloc countries in Western Europe and is working on the creation of new, precision conventional armaments. More and more emphasis is being placed on the Reagan administration's much-vaunted creation of an all-embracing system of missile defense with space-based components. All this has a single purpose -- to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union.

But the Soviet Union has said on more than one occasion that these plans, elaborated in Washington by the creators of future war "scenarios," are futile. The Soviet Union has everything it needs to prevent anyone from acquiring military superiority over it and to deliver a crushing blow in response to any aggression against it.

An accord has now been reached on holding USSR-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments. But the causes of world tension have not been eliminated, as Comrade K.U. Chernenko was at pains to point out in his replies to the U.S. CNN correspondent's questions. The United States, he stressed, has not canceled any of its programs geared to achieving military superiority. On the contrary, the arms conveyer belt is operating at top speed in order to achieve the forementioned aim; the deployment of the U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe has not stopped; the United States has not abandoned the methods of diktat vis-a-vis other states. Unbridled anti-Soviet propaganda continues, as does the kindling of hatred against the socialist social system.

It is this that explains the increased demands being made by the Communist Party and Soviet Government in relation to our state's defense capability and the combat readiness of the Army and Navy.

The Soviet Armed Forces have been and are being developed under the wise leadership of Lenin's party and in line with its defense policy. The leading trend in this development is the maintenance of the Army and Navy's combat might at the requisite level on the basis of providing them with modern weapons systems and military equipment, making sure that the organizational structure and means and methods of control correspond to the nature and methods of waging armed struggle and to the demand of the harmonious development of all branches of the Armed Forces, and raising the standard of the combat and operational training of troops and naval forces.

As USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov has pointed out, "exercises, flights, and cruises are the most complex part of combat training. During this training, the servicemen learn the art of action in different types of combat. In present-day conditions, where battle methods have become more complicated, the achievement of a high standard of field, air, and sea training is a very complex matter requiring intense effort by officers and all servicemen. The personnel's combat readiness is being improved and tested during exercises in the field, in the air, and at sea. The troops are learning to surmount difficulties in the field combat situation and are mastering the science of beating a strong and perfidious opponent. Commanders are acquiring the skills needed to lead subunits and units and shape them into fighting units."

Soviet military science and Soviet military art are developing successfully. Methods of training and controlling troops and naval forces, which ensure the fulfillment of complex tasks in any situation, are being established in all components of the Armed Forces.

In line with the demands of contemporary military art, Army and Navy commanders are taking note of the positive experience of the Great Patriotic War, in particular its most important lesson -- that troops and naval forces must be trained in peacetime for what will be needed in war. They are not mechanically interpreting the past experience but using it creatively, bearing in mind the possibilities of present and future methods and means of armed struggle.

The main force of the Soviet Army and Navy is the people who are summoned to march beneath their combat banners, the military cadres who possess lofty political, moral, and psychological qualities and profound military and technical knowledge and who have mastered their weapons and equipment. The improvement of Army and Navy personnel and of their general educational, professional, and cultural standards are having a favorable effect on the entire process of military building and improvement of the Armed Forces.

Party political work is a mighty weapon of our multinational Armed Forces. Recently its content has been enriched and its effectiveness increased. Its purpose is to inculcate a Marxist-Leninist world outlook in Soviet troops and to instill in them a spirit of high political consciousness, fraternal friendship, loyalty to the revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of the party and people and readiness to carry out their military duty to defend the socialist motherland. Ultimately, the main task of training and education in our Armed Forces is to further increase their combat readiness. The Army and Navy personnel are actively involved in the socialist competition whose motto is "Let us dedicate our selfless military labor to the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!"

Under the new historical conditions the Soviet Armed Forces are worthily carrying out their responsible mission. Under the wise leadership of their Communist Party they are reliably ensuring peaceful conditions for communist creation, vigilantly watching over the gains of socialism together with the fraternal armies of the Warsaw Pact states, curbing imperialist aggressors, and acting as the guarantor of world peace.

Yepishev in IZVESTIYA

PM251039 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 85 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by Army General A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, under the rubric "23 February Is Soviet Army and Navy Day": "Indestructible and Legendary"]

[Excerpts] Peace and socialism are indivisible. Peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems has been and still is the cornerstone of the CPSU's Leninist foreign policy, but from the very first days of Soviet power, our people were convinced that any revolution is only worth something if it knows how to defend itself. "It is precisely because we are advocates of defending the homeland," V.I. Lenin pointed out, "that we say to ourselves: For defense a firm, strong army is needed..." And such an army was created. In the very first battles against the enemies, its fighters and commanders displayed infinite devotion to the revolution.

The Communist Party's leadership of the entire course of the war, from tragic 22 June 1941 through joyous and triumphant 9 May 1945, was the decisive source of our great victory. The party's Central Committee ensured the strong unity of political, state, and military leadership and the cohesion of the Army and the people, the front and the rear.

The USSR Armed Forces played the chief role in the victorious outcome of World War II. At that time, the Soviet-German front was the chief front of all its battles. It was right there that the fascist war machine was crushed. However much the falsifiers of history endeavor to belittle our Army's role in the defeat of German fascism and Japanese militarism, they will not succeed in hiding the great truth about our victory.

The chief result of the postwar development of the Land of the Soviets is the building of a developed socialist society in the USSR. As is known, this is a historically necessary and lengthy period in the development of the communist formation. Our country is at its beginning. The improvement of developed socialism is the chief, strategic task of the party and the people. It has been reflected in the concept of the developed socialist society and will be enshrined in the new edition of the CPSU program, which the 27th party congress is to adopt.

Our people will have to resolve great creative tasks under conditions of a complex international situation and a sharp increase in the danger of war. In the years since the war, reactionary U.S. and NATO circles have not abandoned their attempts to "roll back," "contain," or "eliminate" communism. All these years they have tried, figuratively speaking, to keep us in their sights and their finger on the trigger.

As is known, the Soviet Union counters the American Administration's adventurist course with a policy of consistent love of peace. Evidence of this was provided by the new Soviet initiative -- on talks between the USSR and the United States on an entire package of questions of the nonmilitarization of space and the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms, both strategic and medium-range. At the same time, our people remember the lessons of the war and display vigilance. There are grounds for this. The United States has not abandoned its policy of achieving military superiority, and the deployment of new nuclear missiles is continuing in Europe. Aggressive aims are clearly visible behind the "strategic defense initiative" concept which has been put forward and the "star wars" program -- an effort to disarm the Soviet Union and deprive it of the possibility of making a counterstrike.

This is not the first time that the Soviet people have had to respond to imperialism's challenge. "If forced to do so," Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, declared recently, "we will do everything, as has happened repeatedly in the past, to guard our security as well as the security of our allies and friends."

In the present military-political situation, the party and the government give the personnel of the Soviet Armed Forces the task of being in a state of constant high combat readiness, guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor who tries to unleash military operations. The Army and Navy of the Land of the Soviets are always ready to fulfill the motherland's order. Their high combat readiness is a mighty factor deterring the enemies of peace and socialism.

In recent years the demands made on the troops' combat readiness have increased considerably. This is determined by the increasing aggressiveness of imperialism, the rapid pace of development of the scientific and technical revolution, and the emergence of new, more modern means of armed struggle. The level of combat readiness is an indicator for assessing the qualitative state of preparations of units and ships and the efficiency of all party political work. It is ensured by the vigilant performance of combat duty, by military labor, and by the strengthening of military discipline. The people have equipped their Army with modern combat hardware. It is the task of servicemen to master their formidable weapons to perfection and use them efficiently in combat. Winter combat training is in full swing among the troops and in the fleets.

Nowadays, competent young people are joining the Army and Navy. Almost 100 percent of all servicemen have had higher, secondary, or incomplete secondary education. The bulk of officers are less than 30 years old, and more than 70 percent of them have had higher military or specialized military education.

The children and grandchildren of those who defeated the enemy on the fields of the Great Patriotic War stand in combat formation. They are worthily continuing the front-line soldiers' glorious traditions. This is graphically manifested in the military deeds of our servicemen fulfilling their international duty in Afghanistan and in the vigilant performance of combat duty.

The high ideological, moral-political, and combat qualities of soldiers and officers are shaped by our entire way of life, and all party political work is aimed at this. Our chief aim is that every serviceman should be a patriot and an internationalist capable of fulfilling his duty of defending the socialist motherland. In organizing ideological work with personnel, we also take account of the fact that the class enemy is waging "psychological warfare against the USSR on a very high anti-Soviet note.

The Soviet Army is part and parcel of its people, linked to them by thousands of threads. The defense of the homeland is a nationwide cause. The party regards the military patriotic education of the population, and of young people in particular, as an important constituent in the organization of the homeland's defense. It relies on the Komsomol, the trade unions, the DOSAAF, and other public organizations in this noble work.

Our servicemen resolve the tasks of defending socialism and peace in single combat formation with the armies of the fraternal socialist countries. The Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact states are capable of ensuring the collective defense of the socialist community. The personnel of units and ships are greeting the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy with new successes in fulfilling high socialist pledges.

The all-Army socialist competition under the motto "Our selfless military labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress" has spread widely in this training year. The indestructible and legendary Soviet Army is ready to fulfill its sacred duty at any moment. It is strong and invincible.

Yefimov on TV

LD231618 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Talk by Marshal of Aviation Aleksandr Nikolayevich Yefimov, "commander in chief of the Air Force, deputy defense minister of the USSR, and Twice Hero of the Soviet Union"; time and place not specified -- recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades: In the history of the Soviet Union there are many memorable dates that evoke special pride. Among these is Soviet Army and Navy Day. The history of our Armed Forces is not long in terms of time, but rich in the greatest of events. Their path of combat is marked by heroic victories, and their battle standards are wreathed in unfading glory.

From the first days of Great October, Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the Bolshevik Party embarked upon organizing an army of a new type: The Red Army and the Red Navy were not established for brigandage and pillage, on behalf of the interests of the oppressors, or in order to seize foreign lands and suppress the freedom of the peoples. Lenin's dictum that any revolution is of value only if it is capable of defending itself became a definite deed in direct revolutionary practice. The instrument of this defense was the Red Army and severe trials fell to its lot. Reactionary forces of every hue, imperialist circles, and aggressive states several times endeavored by force of arms to destroy the revolutionary and socialist gains of the peoples of the Land of the Soviets.

From the day of their birth to 1945, our Armed Forces spent about 10 years in battle and struggle, defending the freedom and independence of the socialist fatherland [otchizna]. They discharged their historic mission with honor. During the military intervention of the civil war, the young Red Army routed the interventionist hordes and those of the internal counterrevolution.

The Soviet people and their Armed Forces achieved the historic world victory over fascist Germany and militarist Japan. Delivering crushing blows to the enemy, the Soviet Army defended not only its homeland, but also discharged its internationalist duty, helping the peoples of Europe and Asia to free themselves from the fascist yoke. During the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet people displayed a mass heroism never before seen in history. From the first battles at the border posts, from the defense of the Brest fortress to the storming of Berlin, iron staunchness, courage, daring, and readiness to fight selflessly against the hated foe and to work selflessly were the norms of behavior of millions of Soviet people.

The servicemen of the Soviet Armed Forces carried out exploits seen in no other army in the world. Over 300 of them emulated the exploit of Aleksandr Matrosov. The names of Yuriy Smirnov, Musa Dzhalil, Dmitriy Karbyshev, the heroes of the Panfilov guards and the Molodaya Gvardiya, and many, many other immortal heroes will remain forever in the memory of the people. For courage and bravery, over 7 million defenders of the homeland, representing all nations and ethnic groups of our great country, were awarded orders and medals. Over 11,600 received the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

A great contribution to the cause of the great victory was made by Soviet airmen, together with the other arms of the Armed Forces. In the battle against the fascist invaders, they displayed high moral-political and combat qualities. Our pilots boldly joined battle with the superior forces of the enemy, and, when the situation required it, used the weapon of the courageous and fearless, the airborne battering ram. In the course of the war our pilots rammed the enemy in the air over 500 times. Moreover, 17 of them used the ram twice, (Aleksey Khlobystov) 3 times, and Boris Kovzan 4 times. A woman pilot, (Yekaterina Zelenka), a product of the Leninst Komsomol, carried out the only aerial ramming ever by a woman. Over 350 of our pilots and crews emulated the flaming ramming of the glorious patriot Nikolay Gastello. For courage and bravery 2,420 airmen received the title of Hero of the Soviet Union; 65 people won this title twice, and the illustrious aces Pokryshkin and Kozhedub 3 times.

The image of the liberating servicemen is sung nowadays in epic poems and cantatas and graven in granite and bronze in hundreds of monuments of combat glory. The Soviet soldier appears to the whole world as a noble and staunch defender of a just cause, a fiery patriot, and an unshakable internationalist. This year the Soviet people and our friends abroad will be marking the 40th anniversary of the great victory, and the farther that day retreats into the past, the weightier and grander in scale appears the significance of the exploit of the Soviet people and their Army for the destiny of the world. In the Great Patriotic War our heroic people achieved not only a military victory, but also a political victory, reaffirming the mighty vital force of Marxist-Leninist ideology. This was a victory for the Soviet state created by the great Lenin, the most progressive social structure of the socialist economic system. The Great Patriotic War convincingly demonstrated the monolithic unity of the party and people, the indestructible nature of the alliance between the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the working intelligentsia, and of the friendship and brotherhood of the peoples of the Soviet Union.

The results of the last war are the stern and unforgettable lessons of history, convincing proof of the strength and indestructibility of socialism, and awesome warning to the aggressive forces of imperialism and to sundry lovers of military adventures.

In the postwar years the Soviet Armed Forces have been reliably defending the interests of the state. Their high combat readiness and vigilance are a mighty obstacle in the path of attempts of aggressors to disrupt the homeland's peaceful work. Our country is an unswerving champion of peace. It is difficult even to enumerate all the peace-loving initiatives by our state, or to describe its titanic work to prevent war and military conflict. Europe is beholden to the homeland of October and to the socialist countries for the fact that it has seen no military conflagration for 40 years now. However, the threat has not been removed. The complex and dangerous situation in the world continues.

The aggressive circles of imperialism, above all the United States and the NATO countries, have set themselves the aim of upsetting the military-strategic balance in the world. They are conducting intensive war preparations, stepping up military expenditure, and building up the arms race. Deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles is continuing in Western Europe. U.S. militarism intends to turn space into a theatre of military operations as well. It is striving to dictate its will to sovereign states from a position of strength.

The Soviet Army and Navy now have at their disposal all that is necessary to crush any aggressor. The Strategic Rocket Forces have immense striking power. The maneuverability and firepower and striking power of the land forces are being constantly increased. Our Navy is ocean-going and missile-carrying. The troops of the Air Defense Forces have great combat capability, and the Air Force now has high combat potential.

The basis of the Air Force is composed aircraft, as well as multipurpose variable-geometry aircraft. They are all fitted with the latest armaments, and the most up-to-date navigational instruments, target-location and fire-control equipment.

Soviet servicemen are grateful to the working class, scientists, and designers, and all those whose hands and minds created these powerful weapons. They esteem highly the attention paid by the party and the people to the Armed Forces, to their day-to-day life and martial work. The personnel of the Armed Forces are greeting the 67th birthday of the Soviet Army and Navy in fitting manner. In the field and in the classroom, on the sea and in the air, intensive combat training is under way. The servicemen of the Army, Air Force, and Navy are dedicating their deeds and achievements to the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th congress of our Leninist party. In every unit and subunit there are many servicemen whose martial work calls forth admiration. Among these we may with justice name the airmen of the Guards Red Banner Air Bomber Regiment, which has been the initiator of socialist competition in the Air Force and is commanded by Guards Colonel Tsarkov. Among them are the front-ranking officers Bychkov, Grachev, Kudryavtsev, Tarasevich, Denisov, Ilyukhin, and many others.

The present generation of airmen cherishes and adds to the glorious revolutionary labor and combat traditions of their people and the martial glory of the heroes of the Great Patriotic War. The names of Heroes of the Soviet Union Yeliseyev, Zhukov, (Khaynudinov), Shcherbakov, Zelenyakov, Pavlov, Ruben, Churilov, and others now stand alongside the names of the illustrious frontline aces.

Our Armed Forces have at their disposal remarkable personnel, skilled in handling awesome weapons. Their devotion to the Communist Party, the Soviet Government, and their people is boundless. Soviet servicemen greeted the speech by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko to the electorate with profound interest and approval. They fully and entirely share and support the arguments and tenets set out in it.

With their faultless service, unremitting vigilance, and constant readiness for combat, Soviet servicemen make a worthy contribution to the strengthening of the defensive might of the homeland of October. The Soviet people may be confident that the cause of defending the gains of socialism is in safe hands.

CORRECTION TO SOKOLOV COMMEMORATES ANNIVERSARY

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Sokolov Commemorates Army, Navy Anniversary," published in the 25 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, Insert the following passage between the first and second paragraphs on page V 4:

The complexity of the present international situation, created through the fault of reactionary imperialist circles, is giving rise to the need to further step up Soviet people's vigilance and their readiness to come to the defense of socialist gains at any time, weapon in hand.

The United States and its NATO allies are not abandoning their attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact countries. The United States is carrying out military preparations on constantly broader scales, is creating ever new military bases around our country and the other socialist states, and is kindling military conflicts in various parts of the world. The deployment of U.S. forward-based weapons -- the Pershing II and cruise missiles -- in West Europe is continuing. The plans to militarize space are of particular danger to the cause of peace.

Their aim is to enable the United States to deliver a nuclear strike against the Soviet Union, counting on impunity by taking cover from retribution behind an antimissile "shield."

The Communist Party and the Soviet state are firmly and consistently purusing a Leninist foreign policy of peace. With the other socialist countries and all progressive mankind, the USSR is resolutely struggling against the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, against any wars -- terrestrial or "star wars" -- and for the halting of the arms race, the limitation, reduction, and then total elimination of nuclear weapons from the armaments arsenal, and the prevention of the militarization of space.

The Soviet Union is opposing the extension of the arms race into space so keenly not because it would not be able to respond to these plans of Washington's. "If we are compelled to do so," Comrade K.U. Chernenko said, "we will do everything, as has already happened frequently in the past, to protect our security and the security of our allies and friends." Our aim is to erect a reliable barrier on the path of the militarization of space. Without taking effective steps against the militarization of space, it is impossible to limit, still less reduce, nuclear armaments or to prevent an uncontrolled arms race.

To avert the threat of nuclear war and safeguard world peace, at the USSR's initiative an accord has been reached with the United States regarding the subject matter and aims of the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. talks on questions of space and nuclear armaments which, as is well known, will be examined and resolved in an interconnected way. The USSR is in favor of the talks being of a businesslike, constructive nature and of the fundamental principle of the sides' parity and identical security being strictly maintained. The Soviet Union is prepared to go its share of the way. It is up to the United States.

While tirelessly struggling for peace, our country is at the same time obliged to be concerned to strengthen its defense capability and maintain the Armed Forces' combat might and readiness at the proper level.

The defense of the socialist fatherland is defined by the Constitution as the state's most important function, a matter for all the people, and the sacred duty of every USSR citizen. On whatever sector of communist-building a Soviet person may work, he makes his contribution to the consolidation of the motherland's might and the raising of its defense capability. The worker and kolkhoz member, engineer and technician, scientist and designer, and every worker understand clearly that their personal interests, their present destiny, and even bright future are inextricably linked with the interests of the entire country, with its might and security. Soviet people understand that the defense measures carried out by the party and state are necessary and they support them unanimously.

Thanks to the CPSU's tireless concern and Soviet people's selfless labor, the Armed Forces have a high combat potential. Their might embodies the powerful production forces, scientific-technical achievements, and sociopolitical and ideological unity of our society and the firm, indestructible friendship of the fraternal peoples of the USSR. The Soviet Army and Navy are supplied with first-class military equipment and weapons, are manned by personnel boundlessly devoted to the cause of the party and the socialist motherland and by highly trained officers, and have everything necessary for the successful solution of the tasks which have been set them.